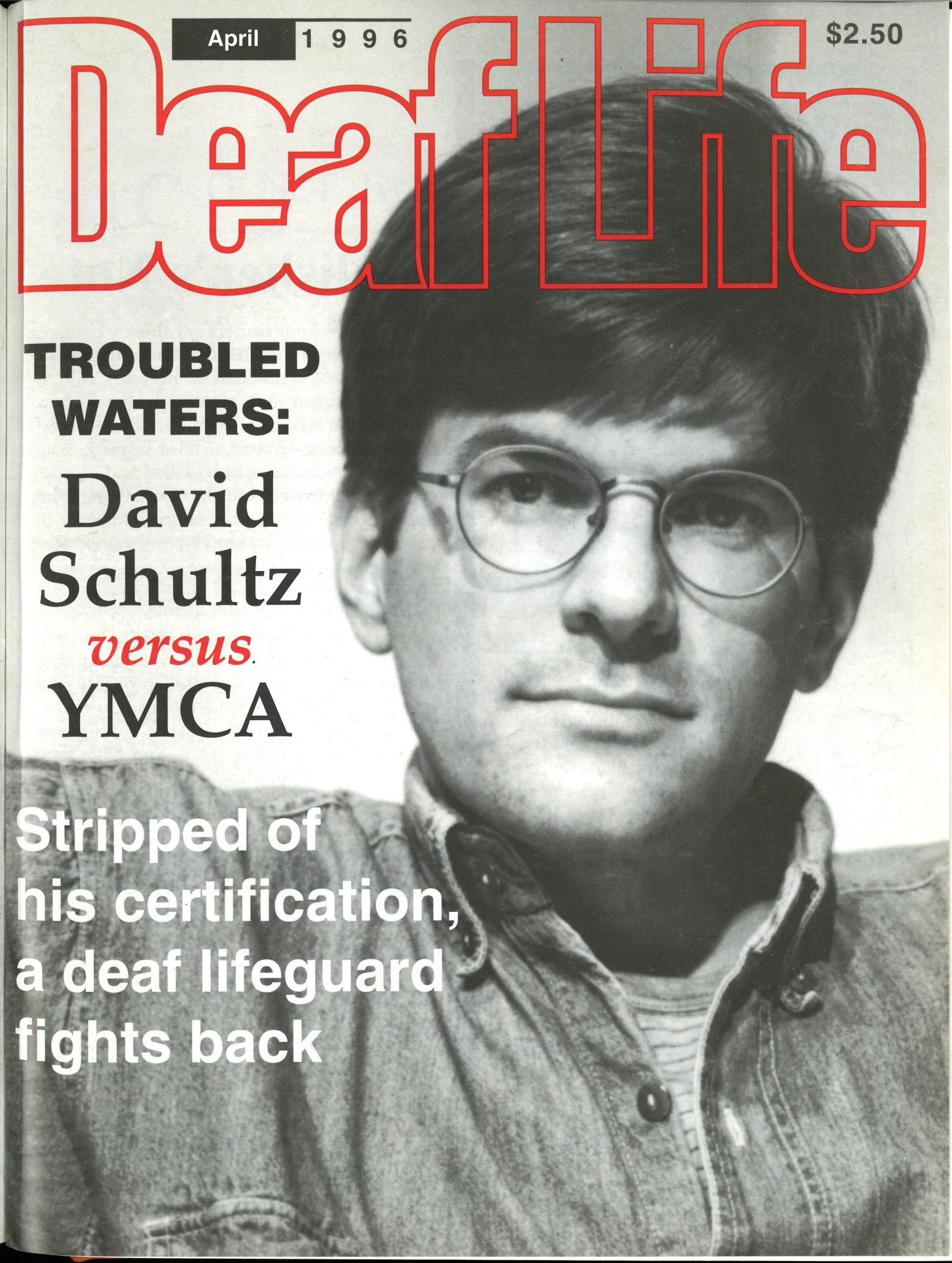
April 1996

DeafLife

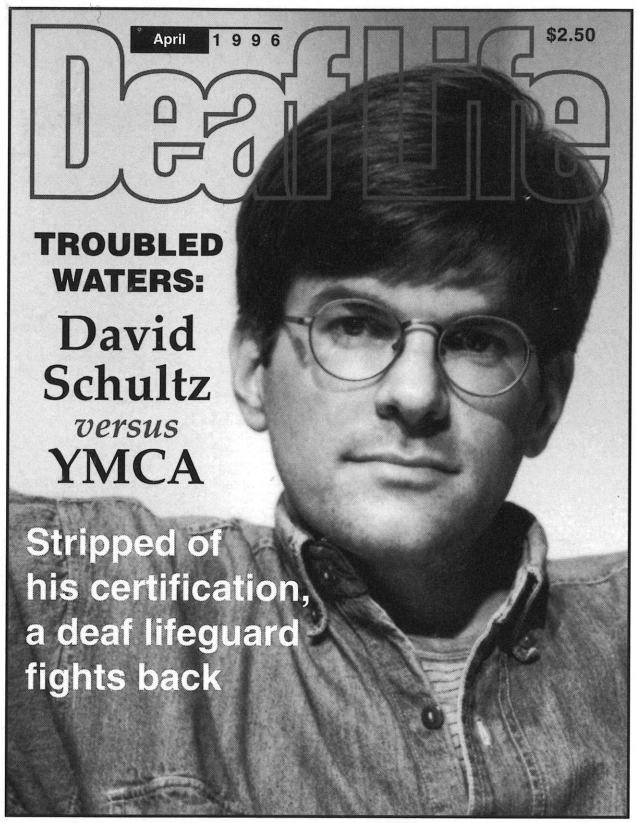
$2.50



TROUBLED WATERS:

David Schultz *versus* YMCA

Stripped of his certification, a deaf lifeguard fights back



COVER

DESIGN BY MATTHEW S. MOORE
PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID SCHULTZ

DAVID SCHULTZ HAS 16 YEARS of experience in lifeguarding and water safety. He's made it his career. He has an excellent record. Yet the Hockomock Area YMCA, where he's worked since 1993, revoked his lifeguard's certification—under pressure from YMCA-USA—after learning that he's deaf. Schultz is suing YMCA for $20 million, alleging violation of the ADA and other anti-discrimination statutes.

It's a case full of ironies, one of which is that the "Y" has a long-standing reputation of welcoming and encouraging everyone. Another is that the "hearing" requirement was written into the job description as a result of the ADA, which was designed to combat exactly the kind of discrimination the "Y" is being accused of. Public response has been overwhelmingly supportive of Schultz. His predicament is ours, too. **10**

Publisher's Note

A number of our readers are already familiar with the case of David Schultz, whose lifeguard's certification was nullified by his local YMCA, under pressure from YMCA-USA, because he is deaf. It's the kind of case that provokes strong feelings among anyone, deaf or hearing, who knows Mr. Schultz or how skilled and competent deaf lifeguards can be. Or anyone who believes in allowing professionals to serve in capacities for which they've been trained and qualified.

I remember Mr. Schultz from his RIT days. I know him as a good man, very eager to be of service to others, very bright. I'm just sorry to see that he has had to experience this kind of raw discrimination. His case will probably set a legal precedent. The YMCA's position is that the safety of swimmers is at stake. But the facts show that deaf people excel—and have long excelled—at lifeguarding.

Consider the case of LeRoy Colombo of Galveston, Texas (1905-1974). Severely deafened at age 7, he would never have fulfilled the YMCA's newly-inserted requirement that he be able to "hear noises and distress signals." Yet he became the "world's greatest lifeguard," racking up a total of 907 lives saved from the treacherous waters of Galveston Beach, a feat noted in the **Guinness Book of World Records**.

I've seen copies of some of the letters sent to YMCA-USA and Mr. Schultz's counsel, and they show remarkable consensus of feeling and logic. We hope the YMCA listens—and learns. What happened to him can happen to any of us.

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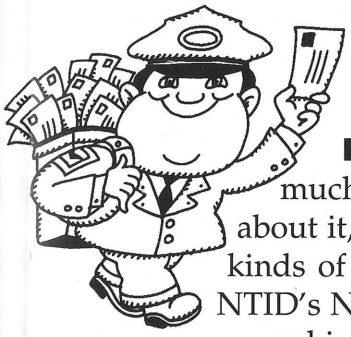

POST-ITS, SCRIBBLES, & JOTTINGS

■ "Some respondents said they hadn't done much writing outside of class. But after thinking about it, they reported having done many different kinds of writing—and that it was even enjoyable." NTID's Nora Shannon and John Albertini have been researching the role of writing (notes, letters, memos, journals) in our everyday lives, and have made some surprising findings. They also offer suggestions on encouraging children to write more—and have fun writing. Sixth of a series. **18**

Up Periscope!

ON LOGOS & DOWNSIZING

■ PROTO-X trains his guns on Gallaudet University's logo. He notes that the "Sign" aspect was eliminated when the old seal was redesigned as a plain "G," and argues that it ought to be redesigned again to reflect "the bilingual, bicultural reality of the Deaf community." He also questions the wisdom of eliminating "unnecessary" programs like the National Center for Law and Deafness and the *Deaf Mosaic* TV series. **22**

Beyond the Envelope

AUTOMATIC PUTDOWN?

■ After Michele Listisard became the delighted owner of a sweet-natured deaf Dalmatian, she discovered a "kill-them-all" attitude being publicized on the Web. She argues that if breeders would agree to give deaf puppies only to people who can train them to respond to signed commands, more could be saved from certain death. Vicious or seriously ill dogs *should* be put down (killed). But, she notes, other breeds have well-known, serious, and costly genetic problems, so why are deaf Dalmatians being singled out? **24**

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Deaf Life

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LETTERS

Exit "Caption Report"

What happened to the regular Caption [Report] Column that kept us up to date on captioning including the percentage of movies with captions on HBO and other premium cable channels? This was one of my favorite sections. I appreciated getting the addresses of video producers so that I could write and ask them to do more captioning or thank them for their efforts. It was a good opportunity to do something about captioning an easy way make a difference. Please include this section again.

Joan Cassidy
Sterling, Virginia

The Editors reply: *We're sorry to say that Stuart Gopen, who had been contributing this popular feature ever since our January 1991 issue, discontinued it after the August 1995 installment, when he moved West. Although we do plan to continue coverage of captioning news (in our "Caption Watch" feature), at this point, it's unlikely that we'll be able to resume "The Caption Report." Mr. Gopen* ***knows*** *the captioning industry as few others can hope to do. We have not been able to find a replacement.*

Teaching the Golden Rule: whose responsibility?

Regarding your current "For Hearing People Only" column, about the poor manners of the younger generation, I must point out that you missed a very important issue. It is not just the limited religious exposure students receive these days. It is also the charges in the American family structure and lifestyle that affects our children's development.

Both the hearing and Deaf media always blame the schools for our children's lack of discipline. It is not the schools' responsibility to teach discipline. Schools can only reinforce what is right and wrong. The basic concept of behavior MUST start at home. With the "nuclear family" all but disappearing, and our exposure to violence growing, parents have to work harder to instill the Golden Rule in their children. Religious teachings can help, but keep in mind, there are plenty atheists who have good manners. Behavior stems from common sense, not the fear of God.

Stacy Shein Stapleton
Rolling Meadows, Illinois

When God is forgotten

Your ["For Hearing People Only"] article in the February issue, "Why does the younger generation of deaf people have such poor manners compared to the older generation?" was excellent! For 44 years as a minister to the Deaf, and 39 years as a Chaplain at the Katzenbach School for the Deaf (NJ State Deaf School), I say a hearty amen!

Few of the younger deaf realize what part the Clergy played in the overall Deaf World of the past. Besides serving the spiritual needs of the deaf, they played a vital part in getting sign language into the Deaf Schools. Before the R.I.D. was established they did much of the interpreting, and often without being paid. This was a part at the work in being a Clergy with the Deaf.

We Clergy remember when all the students in the Deaf Schools had religious training. We remember the students standing in reverence before meals as someone said grace for all the meals. We remember when all banquets and activities began with prayer.

When God and religion was removed from the public

LETTERS

schools, it soon spilled over to the Deaf Schools. As God was removed, disobedience and disrespect moved in. Along with this came the vile, coarse language by the youth which shocks many of the adult deaf. The lack of respect by the students toward the teachers and staff members is appalling.

Because of the lack of religious training in the Deaf Schools, Deaf Church attendance is dwindling. It is estimated only 5% - 8% of the deaf attend any religious activity. In the Northeast, as well as large cities, it is only 1%! Despite having more Priests, Ministers, and Interpreters, the attendance continues to dwindle. Some Churches have resorted to having a social to even get a small group to attend.

All the blame cannot be placed on the Deaf Schools. The lack of role models by parents has hurt deeply. After all, if the parents don't respect God or attend Church, why should the children?

Broken homes, and the one-parent family have also added to this problem. The movies and television have become so permissive, setting wrong examples and ideals for the youth.

While Church attendance is dwindling in America, in other countries, they are building huge Deaf Churches. In Korea, one Deaf Church has 375 adults attending weekly. In Japan, one Church has a weekly attendance of 400! We have no Deaf Churches in America with this many adults attending weekly.

When God is forgotten there is a vacuum that must be filled. This vacuum is being filled with crime, violence, permissive living, and drugs. Surely the old-timers who have gone to their eternal reward would not believe how the deaf have forgotten God.

Is there hope? Of course, but it will only come from the deaf as they become the proper role models. The Clergy can't do it. History shows when empires, nations, and cultures forget God they eventually sink into the depths of degradation.

God help us to return to the ways of "the older deaf of the past" and their reverence, respect, and obedience to God!

Reverend **Croft M. Pentz**
Pastor, Calvary Chapel of the Deaf
Cranford, New Jersey

P.S. Your magazine is excellent. It has the proper balance, which many don't have. Keep up the good work.

"Hitting close to home"

When I read the article written by Rachel Ortiz in the January issue, it hit close to home. I have been through a similar experience and like Rachel, I was finally allowed to join a Deaf program in the 10th grade. It has made a profound impact on me because for the first time I finally felt like I fit in. And everyone in the program understood what I was saying .

I do hope that all parents have read that article and have thought twice before putting their Deaf kids through that ordeal like Rachel and I. I believe that all Deaf kids should be with other Deaf kids so they won't be lonely at school because most of these kids are from hearing families and don't have much social interaction after school.

Thanks for printing that article!! And keep the good stories coming.

David (Hart) Scotton
Cerritos, California

The Editors reply: *We have invited Rachel Ortiz to contribute more of her writing to* ***DEAF LIFE****.*

LETTERS

"We are too many to be ignored"

We are responding to your solicitation for readers' experiences with cochlear implants. We are the parents of children who have received implants and who visit the Auditory Education Center once a week for auditory-verbal therapy. In the past, we have individually answered similar calls from the Deaf community. For the most part, our letters have been ignored because they did not fit the desired response. We are hoping that, as a group, we are too many to be ignored.

We are all unequivocally happy with the decision that we made to have our children implanted. The combination of the implant and the support of loving and dedicated parents and professionals have enabled our children to become hearing, speaking deaf children. They attend mainstream preschools and elementary schools and mingle easily with their peers. The are well-liked and accepted and also manage their schoolwork with minimal extra help.

We have given our children the choice of becoming fully participating members of the hearing world. Already, when those who are old enough to understand are asked if they would choose to hear with their implants or remain deaf, they all reply without hesitation that they want their implants. For now, we must respond to calls, such as yours, letting people know that the cochlear implant is very much a viable option for deaf children that, under the right circumstances, can allow them to hear and speak. In the future, it will be our children's voices that will be heard loud and clear.

[Signed:] **Melissa Chaikof, Paula Blevins, Joyce Carll, Terri Carr, Suzanne Chestnut, Felicity Diamond, Paula Gordon, Elizabeth Johnson, Pat Land, Lori Micetich, Donna Mills, Jan Parrish, Charlene Stancil, Catherine Sweat, Janet Tallant, Allison Tucker, Jody Tucker, Chiquita Valdez**

Auditory Education Center, Inc.
Atlanta, Georgia

A word from Japan

I wish to say a few words about an article found in **DEAF LIFE Plus** section. The article, "'Deaf' terminology, clarified" on page 10 [January 1996 issue] is misleading by one perspective. That is not all Deaf person (uppercase *d*) is an American. There are other Deaf nationals such as Deaf (uppercase *d*) Germans, Japanese, and Canadians. The definition of Deaf person as described in the article says that "Deaf person (uppercase *d*) . . . uses American Sign Language as either a first, second, or additional language." This claims that Deaf Americans own the Deaf (uppercase *d*) identity. This needs to be changed.

I think the Deaf Americans have been too involved with their own national matters that many are beginning to forget that there are others over abroad.

Peggy Prosser-Yoshihara
Tokyo, Japan

The Editors reply: *The article in question was contributed by Alice L. Hagemeyer, President of FOLDA-USA. We are confident that she intended no snub of Deaf people abroad. For conciseness, she focused on the situation in the U.S.A. It goes without saying that the same distinction applies in other countries—the term "deaf" to indicate audiological status irrespective of cultural affiliation, and the capitalized term "Deaf" to emphasize cultural affiliation and use of a national sign language.*

LETTERS

Are Catholics Christians?

Your book, **For Hearing People Only** (Second Edition) explains many things in an easily-read format. Thank you for such clear explanations—and for the gentle way they are presented.

As helpful as your book is, I must take exception to part of one sentence in Chapter 53 (page 295, last paragraph). I am not sure who is making the statement, you or the unnamed fundamentalist Christian church, but it is incorrect. The sentence: "This church preaches a gospel of narrow-minded intolerance towards Jews and **other non-Christians (i.e., Catholics)**."

It is true to say all Catholics are Christians, but not all Christians are Catholics. Let me explain. Catholics are not only Christians, but were the very first Christians. Jesus, who was born a Jew, started the Catholic Church when He gathered to Himself followers who committed themselves completely to Himself. Praying beforehand, Jesus then chose His inner circle—the Twelve. To the Twelve He disclosed personal knowledge of Himself, spoke of His coming Passion and death, and gave in-depth instruction regarding what following His way entailed. Only the Twelve were allowed to celebrate His Last Supper with Him. The climax of Jesus' preparation for the Church was the Last Supper (St. Paul wrote about this in First Corinthians).

The Last Supper was Jesus' final step, before His death, in preparing the Twelve. In Mt 16: 13-19; Lk 22:31f; Jn 21:15-17, we read of the responsibility given to the apostles. This was given in a special way to St. Peter.

Jesus' founding of the Church was completed with the sending of the Holy Spirit. The actual birth of the Church took place on the day of Pentecost.

Other Christian churches were started by men, not by Jesus Himself. As we all know, the Lutherans were started by Martin Luther who had been a Catholic priest. Other Christian denominations were then also offshoots of the original church, the Catholic Church, started by Jesus Christ.

I'm sorry this letter is long, but as you can see, clarification of this is very important. If, indeed, the quote was entirely from the unnamed fundamentalist church, perhaps in your Third Edition this can be noted and corrected by a comment from you.

Judy Dalton
Kateri Catholic Center
Toledo, Ohio

The Editors reply: *Thank you for your kind words and thoughtful letter. The point we were trying to make was that this particular church—like certain other extremist, fundamentalist "splinter" churches—doesn't consider Catholics to be Christians. (Perhaps we should put "non-Christians" in quotes?) According to their particular church doctrine, only the members of their own sect, more or less, can be considered "real" Christians. Since Catholics don't adhere to this church's own narrow interpretation of the Gospels, they aren't really "Christians." As you're undoubtedly aware, certain "Christian" churches promote hatred of Jews and other Christians as well—Catholics in particular.*

Tidbit

I am deaf myself, and was raised oral. I've learned sign at age 21 and am still in the learning process about my own deafness. I would very much like to understand deaf culture better. I have been socializing with the deaf for the past 6 years, however do not feel I'm familiar with the culture itself.

K. S.
Mt. Sterling, Illinois

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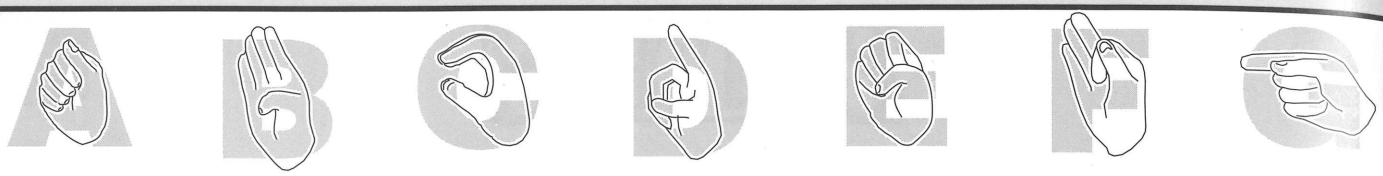

FOR HEARING PEOPLE ONLY™

Do Deaf people understand boycotts?

Deaf people have long been politically weak—which is one of the reasons that the success of DPN was, and is, astonishing. Make no mistake about it—Deaf people have fought valiantly for what they believe in, and not alone. But we have been relatively small in numbers and, until fairly recently, lacked political sophistication. Earlier in this century, deaf people successfully fought for the right to drive cars—although in some cases it took several years before the ban was rescinded. (They were not as successful in preventing the takeover of deaf schools by oralists.) In 1977, Deaf leaders played important roles in getting Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act enforced—e.g., the synchronized sit-ins in HEW Secretary Joseph Califano's office and VR offices across the nation.

If there's one thing that provokes different reactions from deaf and hearing citizens, it's a boycott. Deaf people, on the whole, simply don't respond the way hearing people do.

In hearing culture, if a person commits a wrong, s/he is ostracized or shunned by others in the community. In the closely-knit Deaf community, this usually doesn't happen. Supposing a Deaf club-member does wrong—abuses or exploits others, betrays friends, borrows money repeatedly and doesn't repay, lies, steals, etc. Instead of being expelled from the club, s/he will most likely be treated as though nothing had happened.

Consider an actual incident in a Midwestern club where a Deaf man pressured several other club members into loaning him money—loans that he never repaid. Some 30 years passed before the club's officers finally voted to expel him. In any other ethnic/religious/social club, the culprit would have been expelled within a matter of days.

A main factor is the relatively closed social milieu of the Deaf community. Deaf people set up clubs to give themselves opportunity to socialize freely with others they can communicate with. Because of the formidable communication barriers that still exist between deaf and hearing, Deaf people's opportunities to socialize are severely limited. They do most of their socializing among themselves. Relatively few hearing people can sign well enough to carry on rapid-fire social conversations. Deaf people simply have no choice but to retain the same acquaintances, however dubious their ethics may be. Deaf people don't easily cut Deaf friends and acquaintances—especially when those friends and acquaintances grew up with you

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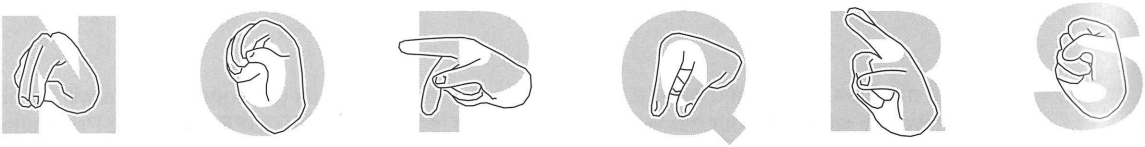

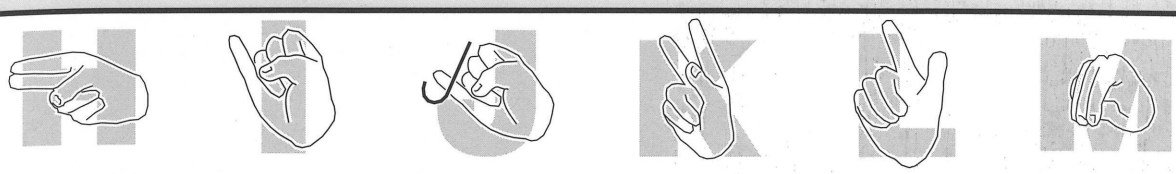

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and attended the same school you did. It just isn't done. Other members will talk among themselves: "Oh, I've known him 20 years," "We went to the same school," etc. This group loyalty serves to protect the wrongdoer. If two Deaf people went to school together, they've grown up, developed close bonds that, in some cases, go deeper than conventional morality. You don't see justice done on your schoolmates. You excuse them.

A Deaf club-member can move from friend to friend—forming and destroying sequential friendships with a series of other members, moving on to a new friend every couple of years when the previous relationship breaks down.

As a result, some Deaf people can commit all sorts of wrongs and get away with it. Not perpetually, but as in the case of the deadbeat borrower, it took his clubmates several decades to expel him. When the majority is finally motivated to act, *everyone* is compelled to vote unanimously against the wrongdoer, and dissenters are ostracized. Even the deadbeat's wife (who retained her membership) was forced to vote to expel him. That way, she couldn't later claim that she "supported" him. The evidence would be on record: she voted with the rest.

There are two things that serve to unify Deaf people: 1) when deaf schools are threatened; and 2) blatant oppression by hearing authorities. Then you will find Deaf people banding together with remarkable alacrity.

Every time a school for the deaf or an effective public-school "magnet" program is attacked or threatened with closing, the community is galvanized and goes into action—e.g., forming *ad hoc* committees, picketing, petitioning, lobbying, holding press conferences, mounting letter-writing and fundraising campaigns. These don't always succeed (e.g., the closing of Boston School for the Deaf), but legislatures have learned that the Deaf community, organized, can be a potent political force. (Q.v., the saving of Central North Carolina School for the Deaf in Greensboro and the deaf program in Manhattan Beach, California.)

What happened with an unpopular hearing administrator in Texas in 1991 is instructive. An angry group of Deaf Texans rallied and organized, then literally hooted her out of office. (Unfortunately, this doesn't apply to corrupt and ineffective Deaf leaders. We have a harder time getting rid of *them*.)

DPN aside, most Deaf people have never learned to become politically powerful because they've grown up in institutions where they've been taught how to be obedient, passive, and quiet, not to stand up for themselves, and certainly not how to communicate their needs. "Be quiet!" "Stop that!" "Get in line!" "Stay there!" "Put your hands down!" Many schools actively discourage deaf kids from asking questions: "Do it. Don't ask questions. Just do as I say!" Needless to say, children who are encouraged to ask questions learn to think for themselves sooner—a good foundation for becoming politically savvy. Those who are shepherded into unquestioning obedience have a more difficult time acquiring power, sharing it, and wielding it responsibly.

It remains to be seen if the Deaf community can present a unified front—to make our shared concerns and needs known—in the coming Presidential campaign.

Have a question about Deaf people and their culture?...Write to:
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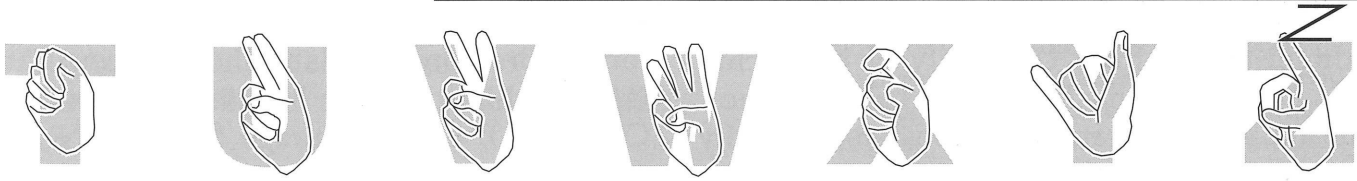
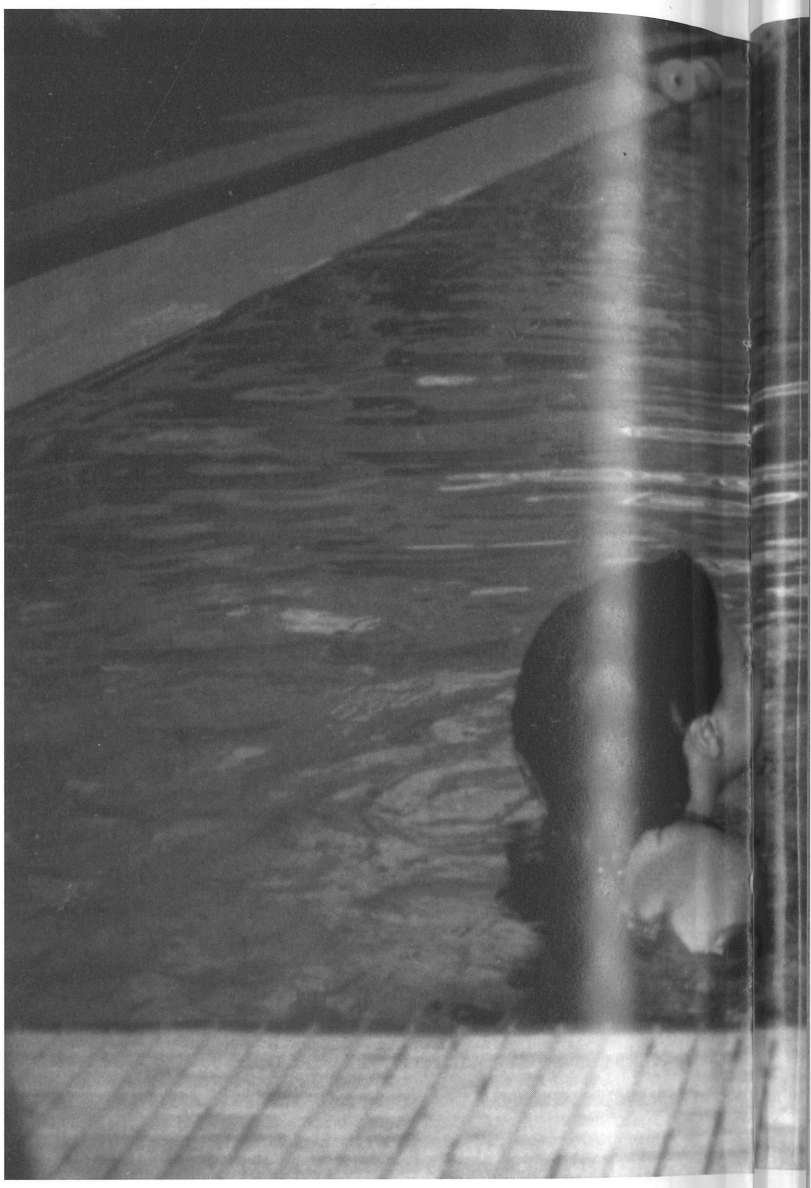


DISTRESS SIGNALS

Is the YMCA guilty of discrimination against a veteran lifeguard—or just ensuring the safety of swimmers



David Schultz is the sort of guy you'd trust with your own life. He has 16 years of experience as a lifeguard. Christopher B. Daly of **The Washington Post** described him as "an accomplished competitive swimmer who sails, swims and dives for fun. He has been a lifeguard since 1979, with advanced certifications from the Red Cross and the YMCA. He has handled several life-saving rescues and has never lost a swimmer in his care. He even trains lifeguards."*

Schultz is also profoundly deaf. He communicates orally—he has good speechreading and speech skills—but also signs and uses sign-language interpreters. He wears hearing aids sometimes, but since he can't get them wet, couldn't use them at work.

Now he is suing the YMCA-USA (headquartered in Chicago) and the Hockomock YMCA, North Attleboro, Massachusetts, for $20 million in federal court for revoking his lifeguard's certification because he is deaf, an act that his lawyers say is in blatant violation of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and other federal and state anti-discrimination laws, including the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Schultz, 32, is a native of Illinois. Born deaf, he grew up in Minnesota, attended public schools and RIT, received his Bachelor's in Recreation Administration from University of Massachusetts in 1988, and his Master's in Leisure Education and Administration from Boston University in 1994. He has worked successfully in aquatics and lifeguarding since 1979, holding certifications from the American Red Cross and the Professional Association of Diving Instructors. The Hockomock Y hired him as Aquatics Director in 1993, and if the opinion of parents of his students, and the students themselves, are any indication, he has done an exemplary job. Here's a rundown of his career:

- 1979: Obtained American Red Cross lifeguard certification
- 1979 - present: Employment history as lifeguard/waterfront director at the following institutions: Harvard University, RIT, Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis Natatorium, Bradford Woods at IU, Girl's Scout Camp (Marion, MA), Greater Billerica Boys and Girls Club (MA), Camp Courage North (MN), and others.

David Schultz teaching two sisters at a Jewish Community Center pool.

• August 1993: Hired by the Hockomock Y as Aquatics Director

• 1993: Obtained YMCA Lifeguard Crossover Certification

• January 1995: Recertified with a YMCA Lifeguard on the Guard II

• April 1995: Mary Zoller has a conversation with David Schultz through the relay service and discovers he had a hearing loss

• May 1995: Robin McDonald, Hockomock "Y" Branch Executive Director, responds to Zoller's letter with letter of support for Mr. Schultz's competency and qualifications

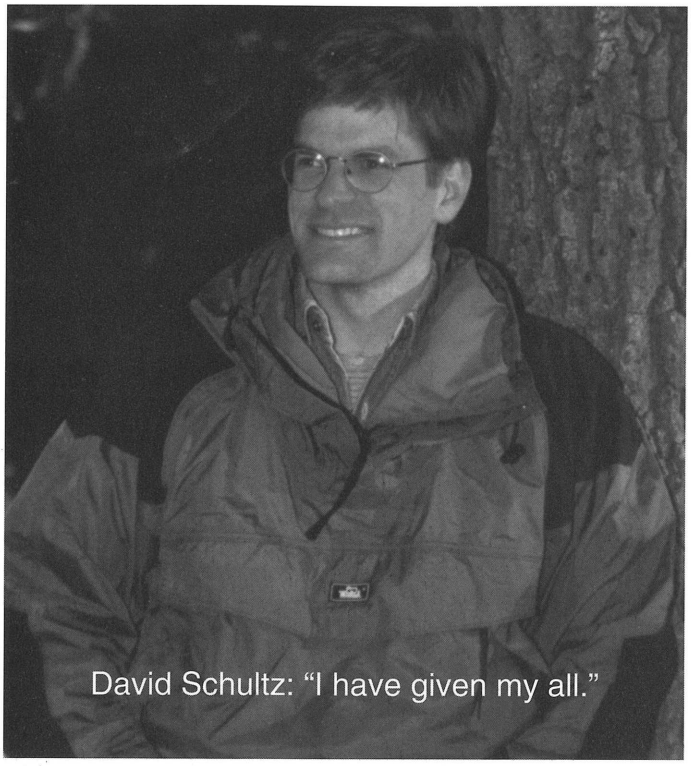
• June 1995: Hockomock "Y" employee Carol Wilson recommends decertification

• July 1995: Zoller invalidates Schultz's certification

In 1994, the YMCA-USA rewrote its training manual to include the requirement that lifeguards had to "hear noises and distress signals." This had never been required before. Nonetheless, Schultz, already certified by the YMCA as a lifeguard, passed the updated "Lifeguard on the Guard II" exam, and was recertified on January 15, 1995.

On April 25, 1995, Mary Zoller of Kenner, Louisiana, YMCA-USA's National Events/Program Training Coordinator, having that Schultz had a hearing loss wrote to Carol Wilson of the Hockomock Y:

> Our records indicate you certified David Schultz as a YMCA Lifeguard on January 15, 1995. Recently, I received a trainer candidate application for the Springfield Program School from David for the Progressive Trainer course. He indicated on his form "relay service" and did, in fact, call me and I communicated with him through the



David Schultz: "I have given my all."

> relay service. This appears to indicate a hearing problem. For that reason, I must ask you to document in writing how David proved to you that he is able to "hear noises and distress signals," a required task for YMCA Lifeguards. I have attached the page from the 1995 Course Catalog which describes the requirements for YMCA Lifeguard certification for your reference. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. I look forward to receiving your letter.

Zoller then asked Schultz for documentation to prove he could comply with the new "hearing" requirement. Robin McDonald, Branch Executive Director of the Hockomock Y, responded on May 8:

> The YMCA of the USA should be advocates, not obstacles, for local YMCAs employing people with disabilities. Your questioning of Carol's judgement in certifying David is further lack of support that this YMCA has received in our efforts to ensure that David reaches his full potential as a YMCA professional. (...) I would also encourage you to visit our YMCA in order to see David or Carol in action. You should also know that, at the Hockomock Area YMCA, the safety of our participants is our top priority. As Branch Executive Director, I would never jeopardize that safety.
>
> The YMCA East Field Executive, at the recent APD Albany Conference, acknowledged that the YMCA of the USA had a long way to go in the area of providing support for those with disabilities. He was right! It continues to be a frustration of mine that our organization, one that is mission driven and for all people, does not embrace the disabled in their facilities or their work force. We should be better positioned on all of these issues than most because of the nature of the YMCA movement and [our] charitable purpose. Instead we are often uneducated and unenlightened in this area. ADA is here and I encourage our organization to embrace it and the opportunity to be on the forefront of helping all people, Y staff and members reach their full potential.

McDonald invited Zoller to see Schultz "in action." Zoller never did. After considerable pressure from YMCA-USA, Wilson, who initially insisted that Schultz was qualified, finally revoked Schultz's lifeguard certification. Zoller invalidated it. On July 24, 1995, she wrote to Schultz:

> You were originally certified as a YMCA Lifeguard by Carol Wilson on January 15, 1995. Based on information I have received since that time concerning your ability to meet all prerequisites for this course (see enclosed correspondence), the YMCA of the USA hereby invalidates your YMCA Lifeguard certification. It is no longer of any force and effect.

Although Schultz remained an employee at the Hockomock Y, he was demoted to "Program Associate," with a considerable pay cut.

Reluctantly, he took legal action. Attorneys Alan J. Rich and Linda Simmons of Rich & Simmons, LLP (New York), representing Schultz as plaintiff, were joined by co-counsels Paul Kelly of Segal, Roitman & Coleman (Boston), and the NAD's Legal Defense Fund. On December 11, 1995, Schultz's lawyers filed a $20 million federal lawsuit in the U.S. District Court in Boston. "As a consequence of defendant's; discrimination, plaintiff was caused to suffer stress, strain, humiliation, personal degradation, emotional distress, loss of salary, and difficulties at his place of employment.

In January 1996, Rich & Simmons contacted the leaders of major deaf organizations, informed them of what was happening, and urged them to write to the national and Hockomock YMCAs.

Outrage in and out of the Deaf community provoked a strong reaction from the largest organizations representing the nation's 23 million deaf and hard-of-hearing people, including the American Athletic Association of the Deaf (AAAD),

WISCONSIN STATE SERVICE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS); Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is continuing to recruit to fill vacancies at the VRC Entry or Objective levels of **VRC-General, VRC Instructor for the Blind (RT), VRC-Coordinator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CHIS),** and **VRC-Bilingual** throughout the state. Persons with fluency in American Sign Language or Spanish are strongly encouraged to apply. *SALARY:* VRC-Entry $22,189 per year with an increase to $22,857 per year after six months; VRC-Objective level $25,981 per year with an increase to $26,761 per year after six months, PLUS excellent benefits. A 12-month probationary period is required.

JOB DUTIES: Counsel persons with disabilities and their families to identify and resolve problems; plan individualized vocational-rehabilitation programs and provide support and direction during the rehabilitation process; arrange for medical and psychological evaluation and vocational testing and/or work evaluation; place clients in jobs; attend meetings, seminars, and training sessions. **VRC-RT General duties PLUS:** Provide rehabilitation services such as training in orientation and movement, optical aids, personal management, and inform community regarding blindness and rehabilitation teaching services. **VRC-CHIS General duties PLUS:** Provide direct services to individual deaf/hard-of-hearing clients, assist in recruiting interpreters, coordinate the provision of regional outreach services for deaf/hard-of-hearing persons.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED FOR POSITIONS: Physical and mental impairments and their effects on vocational and social adjustment; psychological tests and other evaluative techniques; knowledge of target population; techniques and principles of diagnostic interviewing; counseling and placement of persons with vocational/occupational handicapping conditions; Federal, State, and community programs providing services to persons with disabilities; oral and written communication skills.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: **VRC-Objective Level:** Possess a Wisconsin Professional Counselor Certificate per s. 457, Wis. Stats. **VRC-Entry Level:** Ability to obtain a Professional Counselor Training Certificate per s. 457, Wis. Stats. These positions require travel. **VRC-CHIS:** Fluency in American Sign Language. **VRC-Bilingual:** Fluency in Spanish. ☞Apply with an Application for State Employment (DER-MRS-38), a letter of application, and a current résumé. VRC-Objective Level: Must send a copy of the wallet-sized Professional Counselor Certificate. VRC-Entry Level: Must send written statement that they possess a Master's Degree that may qualify them to receive the Professional Counselor Training Certificate. Send to Barbara Bronte; DHSS; Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; 2719 International Lone; P.O. Box 7852; Madison, WI 53707-7852. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility as they are received (no deadline). Eligible applicants will be invited to interview for vacancies in the areas for which an interest has been indicated. Eligible applicants will remain on register for six months or 26 weeks. If there are further questions contact Barb Bronte at ☎(608) 243-5617 (TTY) or ☎(608) 243-5616 (Voice).

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER FUNCTIONING UNDER AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN

American Society for Deaf Children (ASDC), Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA), Committee of American Instructors of the Deaf (CAID), Conference of Educational Administrators Serving the Deaf (CEASD), Deafness, Counseling, and Referral Agency (DCARA), National Association of the Deaf (NAD), Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH), the Massachusetts State Association of the Deaf (MSAD), and local disability/deaf groups. These organizations, whose members number in the tens of thousands, took part in a massive letter-writing campaign to lodge complaints with the YMCA in support of Schultz's efforts to rescind the offensive discriminatory requirement. Letters of support for Schultz and condemnation of the YMCA's act also poured in from deaf citizens, disability-rights advocates, parents, families, friends, and supporters, including other deaf lifeguards, other deaf lifeguards, and parents of children and adults whom Schultz had taught to swim. There was notable consistency of opinion and depth of feeling among the various letter-writers. All agreed that the Y's action was discriminatory and that Schultz deserved to be reinstated. Many explained why deaf people make just as good—and sometimes better—lifeguards than their hearing peers.

Rich, who has successfully represented other deaf people in civil-rights and discrimination cases, blames ignorance. "It's obvious that some people don't care to learn about the capabilities of those different from them. But they have really crossed the line, taking away the livelihood of people who are perfectly qualified. It's wrong. It's illegal. David and other deaf guards have been successfully been protecting hundreds of thousands of people for decades. The American Red Cross, which certifies many times more lifeguards than the Y, have never viewed deaf people as inferior. It certainly is also a breach of the national "Y's" own mission, 'To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy body, mind, and spirit for all.' They really ought to be ashamed.

"This kind of discrimination is not only a humiliating wrong to my client as an individual but it sends the wrong message to the thousands of children and adults with disabilities who participate at 'Ys' across the country. Instead of saying 'You can,' the Y is saying "We won't let you.'"

On February 7, 1996, Schultz and his counsel held a press conference at the Disability Law Center in Boston. Also present was Yvonne Dunkle, national and Massachusetts state Deaf Community leader and former lifeguard.

"I am a professional"

David Schultz's statement, February 7, 1996

Since 1979, I worked as a lifeguard and in the field of aquatics. I have dedicated my career to helping others learn to enjoy the water safely. I have taught hundreds of children and adults to learn to swim. I have taught and trained people how to become lifeguards. I have been certified by the American Red Cross and by the YMCA. I have saved dozens of lives and never failed to save a single person. I have given my all to train myself to be the best possible lifeguard and even risked my life when duty called. Not once have I, or any other of the many deaf lifeguards I know, failed to make a save because we are deaf. As deaf people, we know that our very survival depends upon our visual attentiveness to our surroundings. As deaf people, we are more aware of that fact than most. Because we don't hear it, we must see it . . . and we do see it all. I have worked hard to achieve the many certifications and qualifications I have as a Lifeguard, as a Lifeguard Trainer, as a SCUBA diver and in graduate school where I achieved my Master's degree (M.Ed.) in Leisure Education and Administration here at Boston University. I am a professional.

That is why it has been so distressing that my decertification as a lifeguard was revoked by the YMCA-USA and the Hockomock Y. It shows little understanding for the job of lifeguarding, which relies on visual attentiveness. It shows no respect for me as a professional. Even though the YMCA-USA was invited to observe my skills, by the local Hockomock Y, they declined. That showed that they chose to prejudge my capabilities rather than fairly judge them. That is what prejudice is all about. Bear in mind, February is Black History Month. There is a parallel pattern between what happened to Rosa Parks and what has happened to me. It dehumanized Rosa Parks as she sat in the back seat of the bus because of the color of her skin. It has dehumanized me to have my ability to save lives as a lifeguard prejudged by people who have never met me. That is why I am taking this legal action.

In addition to the legal issues raised, there is an important moral question here, too. The mission of the YMCA-USA is "to put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs emphasiz-

Signboard of the Y where Schultz was decertified.

> ing the development of spirit, mind, and body for all." I ask all people of conscience, with or without disability, whether the actions of the YMCA are on the right side or the wrong side of that mission? I, my lawyers, the many organizations and individuals supporting us, ask that you join in the helping to bring these organizations back to the right side of that mission and to end this discrimination.

Daly quoted YMCA-USA spokesman Steve Hockensmith: "This is a situation where the Y had a choice to make between the safety of the people in its pools and the desire of an individual to be a lifeguard. The Y opted to stick with its rules to ensure the safety of those people in the pools. It's unfortunate that it has come to this."

But is the issue really safety? What about the outstanding records of deaf lifeguards?

Susan Hostovsky of Medfield, mother of a deaf daughter and hearing son, told Schultz: "I do suspect that you have the magical touch." When her daughter fell into the pool, Schultz's quick response saved her life. "Because of this incident, I have absolute confidence in you and your skills as a water safety instructor."

Says Henry Kisor (who, like Schultz, earned lifeguard and water-safety certifications at the Y as a teenager and then experienced discrimination elsewhere): "All I can say is that what has happened to David seems to be the result of aggressive ignorance, the worst kind. Deaf people make excellent lifeguards for pools. On a vast beach where instant communications is required for coordinated rescues, sure, deafness may be a liability, but we're talking about the Y. It disappoints me that an organization that was so important as a mentoring facility in my youth could have changed so."

"A strong case": a mini-interview with Alan J. Rich

What sort of response have you gotten since the lawsuit was filed?

Public response to the YMCA's decision to revoke David Schultz's lifeguard certification because he is deaf has been outstanding. Letters in support of David's cause and our lawsuit poured in from all parts of the country. Of all the letters we have received copies of not one single letter has been negative.

We were particularly pleased that we received endorsements from major national organizations, particularly organizations that are representative of very different constituents within the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities such as the NAD, SHHH, and ALDA, to name a few. It really does show that when a question of basic civil rights is raised, all people are equally offended by wrongful discriminations

In addition we were especially pleased to see that governmental agencies were taking positions in support of our actions. The Massachu-

setts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the State of Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Retardation, Developmental Disabilities Council both came out with strong statements against the YMCA's discriminatory action.

Will this be settled out of court or go to trial?

I never speculate as to whether a case I work on will settle or go to trial. My job as trial lawyer is very simple. I prepare every case as if it will go to trial. I make no assumptions about the defendants I sue. In this case, we believe that if the defendants really understood the issue at hand, they never would have revoked my client's certification in the first place. I have also been contacted by people with national reputations in the field of lifeguarding who've said that the Y's action was clearly inappropriate.

Has the Y has been making any overtures that suggest they may be willing to settle out of court?

As you know [there] are two defendants in this case. One is the YMCA-USA, which is the national umbrella organization of the YMCA. It established the overall program for lifeguarding nationally. The other defendant is the local Hockomock YMCA. The local Y's involved in providing the personnel, the locations, and they administer the evaluations for lifeguarding. They are very involved in the entire procedure and without them there would be no lifeguarding program.

The National Y has not yet provided us with a legal answer and so we do not know their legal position as of yet. however the local Y has contended that though they received A fee, one of their employees was involved in administering the tests, and the evaluation was done at their local Y. it r s their position that any discriminatory activities were done for and by the national organization. That simply seems to be a poor excuse of passing the buck, but it is their legal position at present.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Do you think you have a strong case?

So far, I have not spoken with a single person, be they an expert in the field of lifeguarding, deafness, or any other field, who has felt that we don't have a strong case. It seems clear that anybody who is familiar with the requirements of a lifeguard, understands that the job must rely on visual attentiveness, Even the Y's own training tape shows a technique called "scanning," which ensures that a lifeguard's eyes cross back and forth over an entire swimming area.

In most swimming situations, hearing is of little to no value and possibly can even be a distraction. At a beach, one would be very unlikely to hear any call for help because of distance and wind. In a pool, when they are echoes and noises coming from bathers and kids, there's always lot's of noise. It is very uncommon for a drowning person to actually make a sound which is actually audible [to] a lifeguard.

On the contrary, it's our position that a deaf person is more likely to be visually aware of their surroundings because their eyes are the only way they are generally aware of their surroundings and so there is a heightened ability to appreciate what is in the big picture. On the other hand, having grown up near a beach myself, I know how often lifeguards are distracted by passersby who want to ask them questions, who want to get to know them or hang around them. That's a real distraction that a deaf lifeguard will for the most part will not have.

I'm extremely confident that we'll be able to demonstrate this at trial by combining experts in both deafness and lifeguarding and showing that my client, and deaf people generally, are at least as competent to do this job as their hearing counterparts.■

Deaf Life Photos courtesy of David Schultz; special thanks to Jackie Roth, JR & Company, New York.

*"Deaf Lifeguard Stirs YMCA Waters," **The Washington Post**, February 13, 1996.

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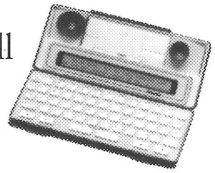

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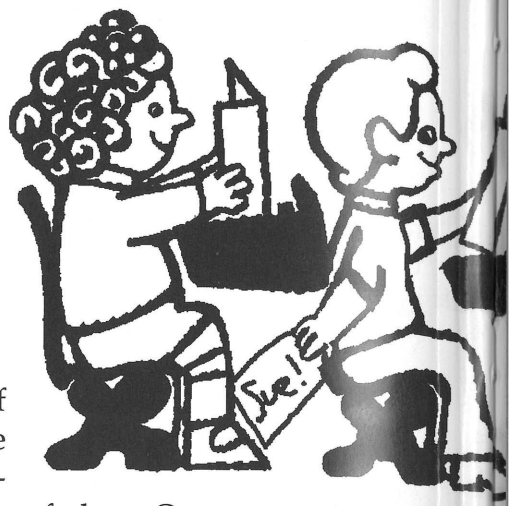
Writing in Childhood



How did you use writing when you were growing up?

We interviewed 20 deaf and hearing persons between the ages of 18 and 28 and asked them this question. At first, some said they had not done much writing outside of class. But after thinking about it, they reported having done many different kinds of writing and that the writing done outside of class was actually enjoyable.

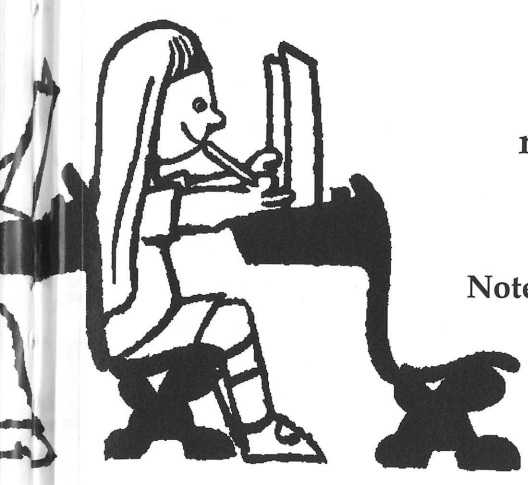
As writing researchers, we wanted to know about the kinds of writing that people (students, in particular) do outside of class. One reason is that when people think of "writing" they think of formal literary prose or of lab reports. People say "I'm not a writer" because they are thinking only of ONE KIND of writing—what English teachers call **expository writing**.

But, in reality, all of us are writers and we do more than just expository writing. Who hasn't left a note in the kitchen for their kids or spouse to remind them of something? Who hasn't called the bank on a TTY for information or to settle a problem? Who hasn't communicated with an employer to inform her that he won't be at work today? We call this **instrumental writing**.

Kitchen notes (instrumental writing)

Another kind of writing is social writing. People do social writing to maintain relationships. Writing letters to family members or friends and passing notes to friends during class are examples of social writing.

Sometimes we write to express our feelings to ourselves or to someone we care



Some respondents said they hadn't done much writing outside of class. But after thinking about it, they reported having done many different kinds of writing—and that it was even enjoyable.

Notes in school (social/instrumental writing)

about. This kind of writing, **expressive writing**, is done for personal satisfaction. People write in journals when they want to remember details or feelings; when they want to express their feelings creatively as in poems; or when they want to discuss problems with themselves. People express themselves to other people in personal letters.

In our interviews with these 20 young adults, we found that instrumental writing was common in all four groups (deaf children who had deaf parents, deaf children who had hearing parents, hearing children who had deaf parents, and hearing children who had hearing parents). Everyone used TTYs, left notes left in their homes (usually in the kitchen), and wrote letters to communicate with families or far-off friends.

"We're going to Grandma's house tonight."

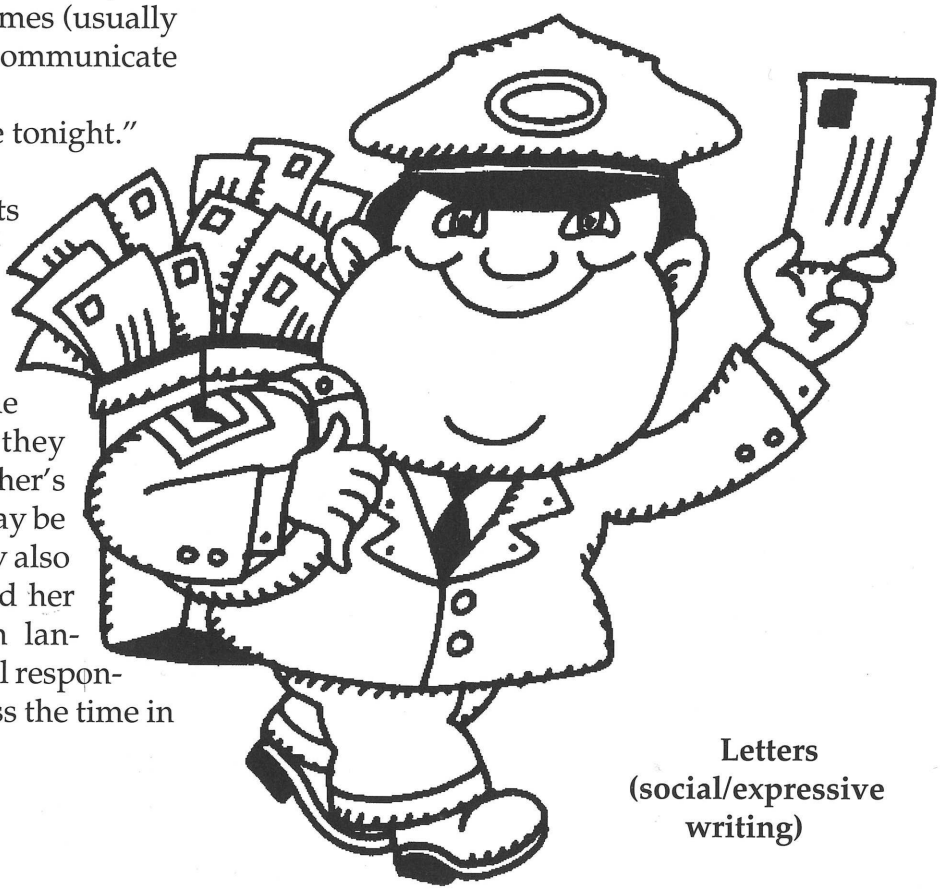
"Clean your room."

In addition, the deaf respondents and the hearing children of hearing parents had a great deal of experience in writing for school organizations, which is another form of instrumental writing. Almost everyone used writing socially in school: they passed notes to friends. From a teacher's point of view, this kind of writing may be annoying. But we suspect that it may also be educational! One respondent and her friend taught one another foreign languages during a boring class. Several respondents invented written games to pass the time in classes:

> In school there was a game that we played that was really not allowed. It was called "Grapevine." On small pieces of paper we would all write secrets and gossip about people, sex, etc. Then fold up the papers and collect them. Because the game was not allowed, we would take the papers home and read them.

Our respondents were enthusiastic about this kind of social writing. Their faces lit up when they remembered passing notes. Such writing was not seen as real work—or real writing. It was fun. One person said, "Oh, notes . . . Do they count?"

Questions about journal-writing brought out



Letters (social/expressive writing)

the most diverse response. People in every group except the deaf children with deaf parents reported having started a journal at some time in their lives. Some were required to keep a journal for school and then continued to keep one for their own personal satisfaction. Although respondents complained about journal writing when a teacher required it, some said this type of writing was a valuable tool. In their journals, they could "talk with themselves" on paper to try to look at an issue or a problem in writing. Journals that were merely a recap of the day's events were not seen as valuable. Here is one woman's response:

> My diary is personal. I tell what happened to me . . . any personal thoughts I might have. I'm thinking about a Photography degree and going into photojournalism, so, sometimes I write about my photography projects. If I read a good book, I write noteworthy things about it.

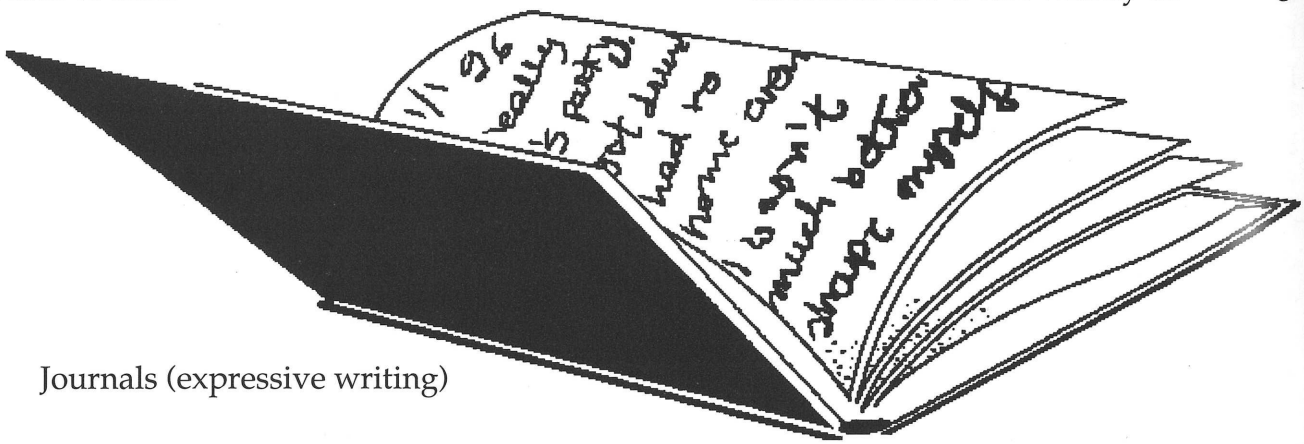
Personal correspondence, the other form of expressive writing, was seen in a different light. Respondents said they didn't always enjoy writing letters, but they did enjoy getting letters. If they wrote letters to friends and family, they knew that that they would be more likely to get responses. Often writing these letters allowed the writer to express feelings that would not be comfortable to express face-to-face.

"Good writers have a clear sense of audience, write confidently about their subject, and write with an individual voice."

Can these kinds of writing that people do outside of classes influence the writing that students do in school? We think so. We think that the wealth of writing experiences that students have outside of classroom instruction and the fun they have with writing can help them become better academic and professional writers. Writing teachers are always trying to find new ways of getting students interested in doing more writing. We suggest that writing teachers use more of the kinds of writing that their students are already familiar with.

Good writers have a clear sense of audience, write confidently about their subject, and write with an individual voice. Writers of notes to parents have a clear sense of their audiences. They, like writers of Post-its and the minutes of student-senate meetings, know what to state explicitly and what to imply. They realize that length, style, and format must differ according to the function and audience of the piece of writing. The more one writes for different functions, the more comfortable she will become at expressing herself on paper and using an individual voice.

Parents and teachers of deaf students can identify and exploit the use of writing for communicative purposes, not when face-to-face communication breaks down, but for real information-giving activities. Have students/children locate information by only reading notes. Give directions for a test wholly in writing.



Journals (expressive writing)

Use Post-its to tell students what their chores are for that week. Leave notes in desks or in the kitchen where children will find them. Concentrate on the real-life aspect of using writing for communication. This way teachers and parents will be helping each other by encouraging the use of writing. Parents can model writing behaviors. Let the children see you writing a letter to a friend or writing a thank-you note for a gift or writing in your personal journal.

Try using journals for communication as well as for personal writing. Informally, deaf and hearing parents have reported using a form of dialogue journals with their deaf and hearing teenagers in order to discuss delicate issues and to keep the lines of communication open during those challenging years. Respond to journals using "authentic" comments. That means answering the students/children the way you would answer a friend. Try not to sound like a parent or teacher, and don't correct their grammar!

Journals can be used as a means of dialogue between parents and teenagers to discuss delicate issues and to keep the lines of communication open.

Those who have used writing to record experience and sort through complex situations at home might be inclined to use writing as a tool for thought in academic and professional situations as well. Since most students are familiar with writing personal letters, teachers and students might use this form to work on difficult topics. They could write a letter to a close friend and an essay on the same topic. This activity would encourage students to use different styles for different audiences.

By doing real writing for real audiences and for a real purposes, students see the similarities and differences among various kinds of writing. The more students write, the more their confidence and their awareness of different audiences will increase and, as a result, a personal writing style will develop.

Deaf Life Photos courtesy of the authors

About the authors:
Nora Shannon and John Albertini teach English and do research at NTID.

Who is this guy?

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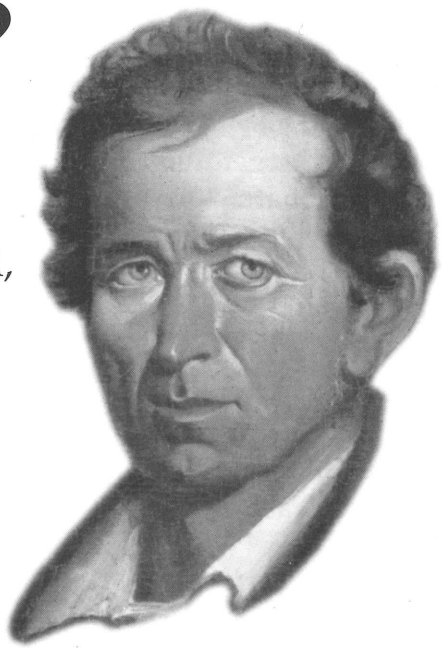

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GALLAUDET'S LOGO

The important thing to remember about Hearing people is that they never give up trying to make Deaf people over in their image. Even while seeming to give way on one issue, they will often strike back in another area. The most obvious example, of course, is the belated acceptance of American Sign Language as a valid language, and consequently greater public acceptance for sign-language-interpreting services. But closing down the schools for the deaf and "mainstreaming" Deaf children into Hearing schools with the help of sign-language interpreters isn't such a good idea.

Another example is the redesign of Gallaudet University's logo.

The old Gallaudet College seal used to include the fingerspelled word "Ephphatha" (an Aramaic term for "Be thou ọpened," spoken by Jesus Christ to the ears and mouth of a deaf man in Mark 7:34). Then the logo was redesigned and the drawing of fingerspelling hands dropped. The college's new symbol is a plain, unadorned letter "G." It could just as well stand for Gonzaga University or Georgetown University.

The "Ephphatha" slogan might have been patronizing (we would do far better to concentrate on our strengths instead of our weaknesses), but is deleting all evidence of Sign really progress? Wake up, folks! How about redesigning the Gallaudet logo to reflect the bilingual, bicultural reality of the Deaf community?

Maybe Gallaudet could announce a national contest with cash prizes for the best logo designs. This competition would certainly be a great boon for Deaf artists!

* * * *

ADDENDUM: I was dismayed to read in the December 1995 issue of **DEAF LIFE** that:

> (o)n October 27, Gallaudet University's Board of Trustees passed a resolution to close the National Center for Law and Deafness (NCLD), effective January 1, 1996. It has been located on campus since 1977.
>
> The Board's action was based on two factors. First, Gallaudet's mission and vision statements say clearly that its priority is the education of students and the support of programs that directly serve or are related to students' needs. Second, the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) recently decided to expand its governmental-affairs and advocacy functions and has recalled its Legal Defense Fund (LDF) back to NAD headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. The LDF was previously housed within the NCLD.

Those Gallaudet trustees now frantically chopping college programs left and right with just a tad too much enthusiasm, may be taking too narrow a view of their college's mission. True, some programs slated for closure, like the TV program ***DEAF MOSAIC*** and the National Center for Law and Deafness, don't serve the students directly, but they do hire many students as interns and give them invaluable hands-on experience that's absolutely essential to success in the outside world. And their working experience diffuses, so to speak, to other students on the campus, giving them hope and a good reason to stick with their arduous° studies.

And these "unnecessary" programs also generate far more goodwill and favorable publicity than those supercilious° hacks in Gallaudet's Public Relations Office ever could.

—PROTO-X

arduous: difficult; exhausting; grueling.
supercilious: snobbish; haughty.

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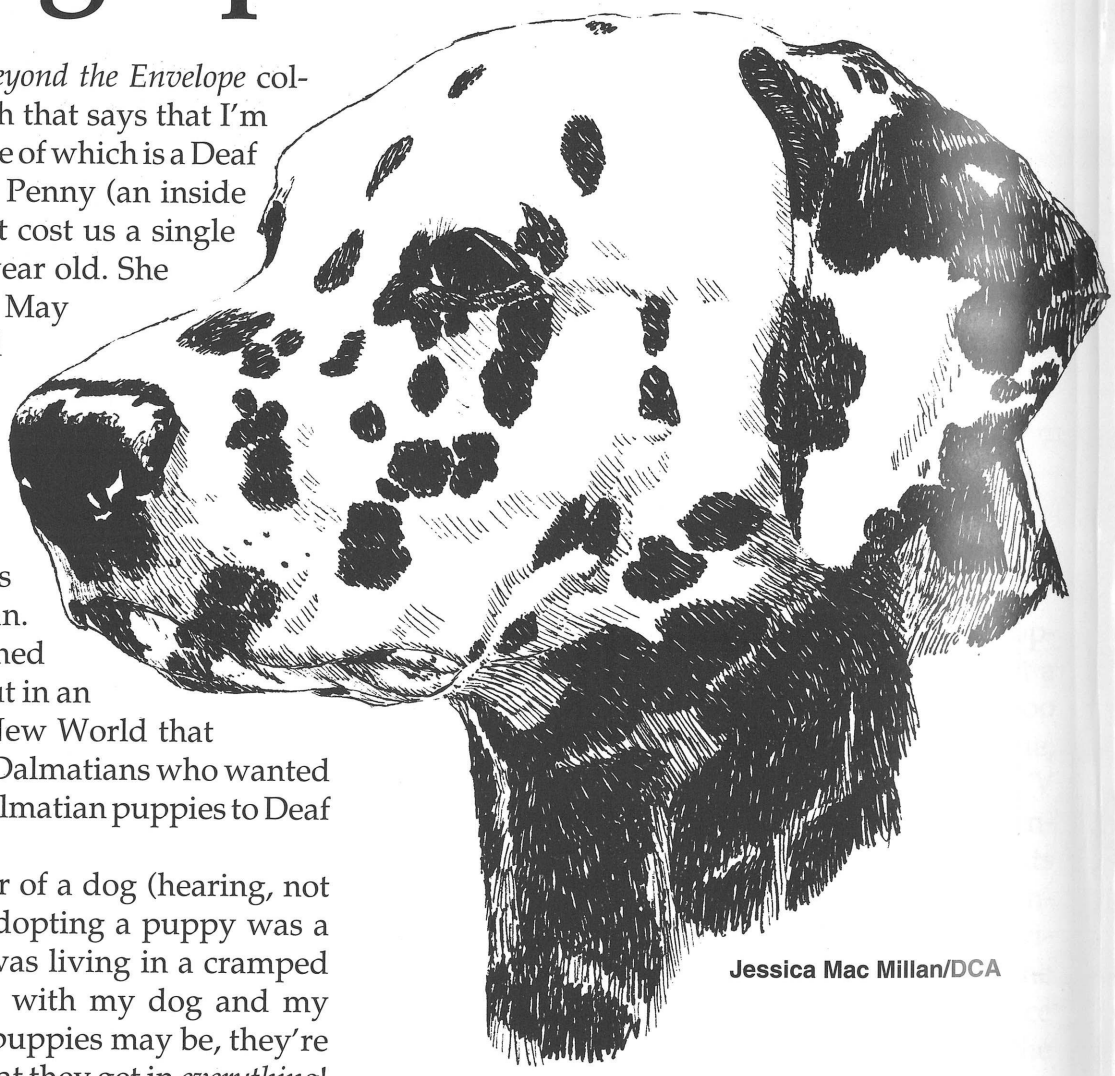
Beyond the Envelope

(ONE COLUMNIST'S OPINION)

Seeing Spots



Jessica Mac Millan/DCA

At the end of every *Beyond the Envelope* column there is a paragraph that says that I'm an owner of two dogs, one of which is a Deaf Dalmatian. Her name is Penny (an inside joke—she literally didn't cost us a single penny!) and she is one year old. She will be 2 years old come May 7th. I found her via a local BBS (Bulletin Board Service, for those of you who haven't discovered what your computer can do for you) called "Deaf New World," which is operated by Ken Glickman. A Deaf woman who trained dogs in her spare time put in an advertisement in Deaf New World that she knew of a breeder of Dalmatians who wanted to give away two Deaf Dalmatian puppies to Deaf owners.

I was already an owner of a dog (hearing, not Deaf) and I knew that adopting a puppy was a crazy idea because 1) I was living in a cramped one-bedroom apartment with my dog and my husband; and 2) cute as puppies may be, they're like babies in the sense that they get in *everything*! And they need to be trained, which takes up quite some time. But I was gripped by a feeling of altruism: I wanted to save a Deaf puppy from certain death! Also, at any age, Dalmatians are always beautiful. It's those spots, I think.

Well, like I said before, Penny is on her way to her second birthday. My husband and I survived her puppy stage. And we no longer live in the cramped one-bedroom apartment. (We are now homeowners.) She has a charming personality—she absolutely *loves* people. I'm not exaggerating. Our neighborhood is full of young children and they've all met Penny. In good weather, we leave Penny outside. As soon as we do this, children from all over the area come running to play with her. She basks in their attention and laps it right up. She has never bitten anyone nor has she ever bared her teeth in a snarl. My husband and I have long since come to the conclusion that she is a perpetually good-natured dog.

One day I went Netsurfin' through the Web and discovered that there were Web pages about Dal-

matians. Just for the heck of it, I chose a Web page run by the Dalmatian Club of Northern California (by the way, their Web address is http://web.aimnet.com/~jriddle/dcnc.html). I was shocked and dismayed when I read their section on Deaf Dalmatians. It said that Deaf Dalmatians were always mean, prone to biting, untrainable, and so on. It ended by strongly encouraging people to put all Deaf Dalmatians to sleep. My head was spinning with repeated refrains of "Put Deaf Dals Down!" I had read **DEAF LIFE's** June 1994 cover story about Deaf Dalmatians, but at that time, I wasn't an owner of a Deaf Dal, so I read it with a detached attitude. Now I was being confronted by an unspeakable reality: the Holocaust of Deaf Dalmatians.

Not one to sit on my ass and twiddle my thumbs, I sent an e-mail message to the guy who ran that particular Web page. I very calmly told him about my sweet Penny and basically told him that I did not agree with his position that *all* Deaf Dalmatians should be put to sleep. I told him that dogs should only be put to sleep if they were seriously ill and/or had become dangerous to people for some reason (and honest attempts had been made to train the dog before throwing in the towel). I told him that encouraging wholesale killing of Deaf Dalmatians simply because of their Deafness smacked of discrimination and intolerance. In a fairly short time, I received a reply from him. It was a very polite letter, but he maintained his stand on the subject of euthanizing Deaf Dalmatians. He said that it was important to "maintain the integrity of the breed" and that there were cases of Deaf Dalmatians that had gone berserk and had to be put to sleep. I wrote back a reply and said that if a dog goes berserk and cannot be controlled in any way, it is reasonable to put the dog down. I told him that if the Dalmatian Club would make a statement encouraging people to give away and/or sell Deaf Dalmatians *only to Deaf owners (and to people who knew sign language well)*, then there would most certainly be a dramatic drop in the percentage of Deaf Dalmatians being put to sleep. He didn't reply to this, which didn't surprise me one bit.

If the integrity of a breed is so important, why aren't other organizations of other breeds calling for euthanasia of dogs who exhibit genetic/health problems due to inbreeding and or over-breeding?

I really should be fair to that guy—our e-mail conversation took place in early 1995 and when I checked around on the Web for the latest updates of Dalmatian-related Web pages, I checked out his page once more and was pleasantly surprised that he had toned down his negative remarks about Deaf Dalmatians. I could only find one sentence about Deaf Dalmatians and it was placed in a list of ethical guidelines for owners and breeders It listed 6 "rules," one of which was #3f: "If I am involved in breeding Dalmatians I will: euthanize all totally deaf puppies." I'm still not too happy about that sentence, but it's an improvement over his previous derogatory remarks. However, he's not the only one. A veterinarian, Dr. George Strain, has his own page alleging the dangers of keeping and breeding Deaf Dalmatians. He opines that Dalmatians who are deaf in both ears should be put down immediately. However, he says that it is okay to keep deaf dogs who are deaf in only one ear, but stresses that they should not be bred. This distinction of deaf-in-two-ears dogs vs. deaf-in-one-ear dogs escapes me. If people are going to put down deaf dogs simply because of their deafness, why not kill deaf-in-one-ear dogs as well?

Dr. Strain also did research on the percentage of Dalmatians that gave birth to deaf puppies. He found out that in 2,067 *hearing* Dalmatians who were bred, 5.90% of them gave birth to Deaf puppies. In 417 Dalmatians where the father is hearing and the mother is deaf-in-one-ear, 11.03% of them gave birth to Deaf puppies. In 214 Dalmatians where the father is deaf-in-one-ear and the mother is hear-

ing, 9.81% of them gave birth to Deaf puppies. In only 26 Dalmatians where both parents were deaf-in-one-ear, 19.23% of them gave birth to Deaf puppies.

The conclusion that Dr. Strain gave about the above data was that he felt that the percentage for deaf parents giving birth to deaf puppies was not reliable due to the low number of dogs studied. He also said that he had no idea why a hearing-father/deaf-mother combination gave birth to more deaf puppies than deaf-father/hearing-mother dogs did. My conclusion? It is apparent to me that no matter what combination of parents, *every Dalmatian has a chance of giving birth to a Deaf Dalmatian*. All of his talk about hearing/hearing parents, hearing/deaf parents, and deaf/deaf parents reminds me forcibly of Alexander Graham Bell, who worried about the dangers of Deaf people marrying each other and producing more Deaf children. Time has proved him wrong.

All of this "integrity of the breed" rationalization sounds like garbage to me. If the integrity of a breed is so important, why aren't other organizations of other breeds calling for euthanasia of dogs who exhibit genetic/health problems due to inbreeding and or over-breeding? For example: German shepherds run a very high risk of hip dysplasia; Labrador retrievers have a tendency to dwarfing; 70% of collies have genetic eye trouble (10% of them eventually become blind); Great Danes have weak hearts; Chinese Shar-Peis have genetic skin disorders; Bulldogs' eyelids are too tight, which eventually ruins their eyesight; and Golden Retrievers are genetically at a higher risk for lymphatic cancer, muscular dystrophy, skin allergies, and some of them are born with only one testicle.

The above list of breed-specific genetic disorders was culled from the 12 December 1994 article in **TIME** magazine. This is only a partial list of many breeds who have genetic problems. Yet we don't hear people and organizations calling for euthanasia of those dogs. Owners spend thousands of dollars (or more) each year in veterinary bills to cure their dogs' health problems that are largely due to genetics.

My neighbor owns a hearing Dalmatian and it is a real mean dog. He snarls at everyone and at all dogs whenever he sees them. I think he should be put down, especially since other Deaf Dalmatians have been put down for exhibiting the same behavior, but because he is lucky enough to be born hearing, he has escaped the unfortunate fate that has befallen other Deaf Dalmatians. There's something wrong here.

About the author:

Michele Listisard has been working as an editorial assistant for **SCIENCE** magazine for 5 years. She is also the new community representative for Gallaudet University's Institutional Review Board. Active in the Deaf community since childhood, she spends her free time volunteering for MSSD's Performing Arts Department (and she's a 1983 alumna of MSSD as well), cavorting with her two dogs (one hearing Husky mix and one deaf Dalmatian), and with her husband. She's an avid reader of magazines and books and will read practically everything from **MAD Magazine** to Shakespeare.

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. . . A FEW MORE WORDS

May the best— or the Deafest—win?

"Hard-of-hearing" doesn't necessarily mean "hearing-in-the-head." Shouldn't an actor be judged on talent alone, and not decibel loss?

***Crab theory**: metaphor for backstabbing and vicious gossip in the Deaf community, aimed at successful persons. Supposedly, when crabs are caught and tossed into a pail, if one crab tries to climb out, the others pull it back down. When a deaf person achieves success, according to this view, other deaf people resent it and act like crabs.—Editors*

I recently finished filming an episode for a new Steven Spielberg TV-show called ***High Incident***. I auditioned with several other Deaf and hard-of-hearing actors and got the job, along with Alan Spo Schwartz, who plays my brother. The casting director loved the audition and hired me the next day. Good news, right? Yes and no.

It's a wonderful, exciting experience for ANY actor to be working professionals on a set, especially on a Steven Spielberg project. Something that should be celebrated. So what happens? The Deaf crab theory, of course. It began IMMEDIATELY—the very same day I was hired. Why? Because Alan is Deaf of Deaf and I am Hard-of-Hearing (late-deafened, degenerative). Regardless of my fluent use of ASL, support of Deaf, and involvement in the Deaf Community, etc., I was immediately backstabbed by many other Deaf who in front of me say they are my "friends." Exactly who was saying this? I don't want to name names, but I can imagine!

And when the TV show airs, rather than support the good talent on TV playing Deaf characters, there will be those who will undoubtedly complain about it all!

With a dB range of 80/95, I wouldn't consider myself lightly hard-of-hearing. There are many out there who call themselves "Deaf" who can hear, some better than me! It's the typical politics of the Deaf Community. WHEN IS IT GOING TO END???? When are we going to stop degrading each other based on decibel range, amount of loss, or length of time in the Deaf community? When are we going to start standing up and cheering for ANY of us with a hearing loss who can get successful jobs, parts on TV, or great opportunities in the hearing world? There are plenty of talented Deaf actors who are overlooked because the same people keep getting the jobs. It's time that we all got a chance.

I am now finishing my doctoral dissertation, which focuses on ASL as Deaf kids' first language. It's very pro-ASL. I work hard with Deaf kids through my theatre company, and I utilize my community-access TV show, ***Deaf Perspectives***, to reach people and publicize important issues in the Deaf Community. I am fluent in ASL, don't use a voice phone, utilize interpreters when necessary, and support Deaf events. Because my dB range is 80/95, I am not "deaf" enough?

I have even heard that some Deaf actors who work often (and whom I thought were real friends) are upset about not getting the role I got. Why? Because I got it or because they didn't, for what-

ever reason? But rather than "sharing the wealth" of any opportunities with others, it is immediately made into an "issue" and a war. Why not "may the best man/woman win?"

After all, there are many reasons performers get roles, or don't get them. Sometimes it's a "look," or talent, or a combination. The casting director came to the set and told both Spo and me that we were wonderful. We happened to be "right" for the parts. One person cannot expect to receive EVERY role that comes around. I believe in healthy competition and being happy for whoever gets a role for whatever reason!

Professional actors continue their studies to keep their craft sharp and fresh. Even people who work on series and films all the time continue studying because they're never perfect, and the competition in the entertainment business is fierce! Some of the Deaf "actors" out there don't study at all, or have done some little work at their Deaf schools and think that's enough to compete for top acting positions. Some of the Deaf actors I've seen auditioning have never had any professional training or work, and have only minimal experience from high school or college. That's equivalent to hiring an accountant who merely studied some math, rather than in-depth tax preparation or accounting work.

I know I speak for more than just myself. I know there are MANY out there just like me who are fed up with being outcast (not to our faces, but behind our backs) by other Deaf who don't think we hard-of-hearing or late-deafened are "Deaf" enough for them. Okay, call me just a big mouth, but I'm a big mouth who's not afraid to speak up about this, and I hope others in the same situation read this and begin to stand up for themselves.

Many of my detractors are unaware that I have years of professional experience with starring and co-starring roles in feature films and a TV series, as well as commercials and Off-Broadway work. I have done over 16 feature films, and when I was actively pursuing my acting career (before the Ph.D.), I used to be paid to travel to various film festivals as a star, sign autographs, and promote my films, and I appeared on many talk shows. I have also been interviewed and photographed for many magazines and newspapers, focusing on my acting career. I have worked with stars like Linda Blair, Hulk Hogan, Christopher Lloyd, and Shelley Duval. Many of the "friends" are unaware of this, and that I have a lot of experience. Many people I see at auditions have no professional experience at all and are not "full-time" actors at all. So what? If *they* get a break—GREAT!

I am fluent in ASL, don't use a voice phone, utilize interpreters when necessary, and support Deaf events. Because my dB range is 80/95, I am not "deaf" enough?

So what I'd like to know is: is getting an acting role—in the view of the Deaf community—based on who is the BEST and most experienced—or based on your dB loss?

When I have heard of other "Deaf" who have gotten roles on various shows (some of whom are hard-of-hearing like me and can speak and talk on the phone—but who use ASL and are in the Deaf community), I cheer for them—or ANY Deafie who gets any role! I believe in supporting and cheering them for it, not putting them down. So for those of you who doubt, watch and see and stop judging us hard-of-hearing folks who are not "hearing-in-the-head," but Deaf in our hearts and mind. Judge us on our abilities, actions, and minds, NOT our dB loss! Even those who are new to the community and "hearing-in-the-head" should be brought in, welcomed, taught, and nurtured to grow as Deaf people. If we keep rejecting them all, they will never understand or appreciate the beauty of Deaf culture!

Deaf people (small and big *D*) make up a large percentage of people in general. Those who have lost their hearing later in life, whether post-lingually deaf or

hard-of-hearing, often go through an extremely frustrating period. Now they must deal with learning new ways to communicate, a new life without their hearing, and sometimes the loss of their old hearing friends who don't understand. Many Deaf don't understand this either. I know many profoundly, pre-lingually Deaf have also experienced great big frustrations with the hearing world, with its manipulations and ignorance about deafness, Deaf Culture, and ASL. So Deaf people experience plenty of stress and frustration too.

We hard-of-hearing can be of great benefit to the Deaf community if you keep your minds open and welcome us for what we are—people just like you.

Don't you see, we have all our own individual, unique experiences of frustration in relation to our hearing losses, big or small? I was labeled a slow learner in school and never graduated from high school because they said I could hear "good enough" and "could pass." I've proved them wrong, getting an advanced education by working in ASL with interpreters in class and concentrating on the subject closest to my heart—deafness. I did "pass" for a long time—while missing a great deal of information I never knew I was missing. When I found ASL and Deaf culture, I finally felt whole and complete, and my heart was full and my life completely changed. Don't you suppose that, if I had a choice, I wouldn't want to give up the easiness of the hearing world if I could have it? Honestly—you bet! But it's entirely too frustrating most of the time. Try to understand my point of view. I cherish the Deaf community and my "Deaf inside," but there is no reason why any of us can't ride both sides of the fence if we are able!

Consider Marlee Matlin, who took a huge risk in playing a "hearing" character in a movie with Melissa Gilbert (***Against Her Will: The Carrie Buck Story***)—and she was wonderful!

We should bond together in support of each other. Numbers are powerful and if we welcome all entrants with open arms, our Deaf community could thrive with more power in our favor, ensuring a secure future for us all—strong schools, good quality of life, and accessibility equal to that of the Hearing community! It's not our deafness that stops us from succeeding, it's our need to pull each other down when we do.

Stop the crab theory before it destroys us all. Don't let deaf-against-deaf hatred destroy the Deaf community or people's dreams! We hard-of-hearing can be of great benefit to the Deaf community if you keep your minds open and welcome us for what we are—people just like you. Many Deaf take advantage of hard-of-hearing to make phone calls, etc., but reject us by judging us, according to our decibel loss, against strong Deaf.

I welcome your views—Deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf, and late-deaf. Bonding TOGETHER is the key to success for any of us, and all of us. All of us need support. All of us should be willing to give it.

There is a verse I read many years ago, by an unknown author, that I would like to share:

> Dear Lord, in the battle of life that goes on, I ask for a field that is fair,
> A chance that is equal to all in the strife, and the strength and the courage to bear.
> If I should win, let it be by the code with my strength and my honor held high;
> And if I should lose, let me stand by the road and cheer as the winner goes by.

—Jennifer ("Red Jenn") Delora
Hollywood, California

Editors' note: *This has been edited for clarity, with Ms. Delora's approval.*

READERS' RESPONSES

Should hospital limit their options for interpreting contracts to only one interpreter-referral agency in a community where more agencies exist?

0% Yes 100% No 0% Not sure

NO—No, they should not limit their options to one agency because it could not be lacking of interpreters. For an example, when one agency doesn't have any available interpreters for a specific time, another agency should be contacted for an available interpreter. Also, for some situations, higher-level certified interpreters are required, so contact any agency that has an available interpreter to meet a request.

NO—There are millions of agencies that have various of skills that the recognization [*sic*] of one hospital using not just one agency, but many will give the deaf community the right to access the varie[tie]s of service, not just phony agency.

NO—Capitalism!

NO—As a deaf customer, in a hopspital situation being personal, I have the right to give the hospital names of interpreters. And if those interpreters are not on contract with the interpreter-referral agency, then I am limited of the right of who I want to interpret.

NO—Contacts should be with any qualifed interpreter-referral agency interested in providing the service. Suppose the hospital needs an interpreter in an emergency situation, they call the referral agency and all the interpreters are out working, none are available. Limiting themselves to one referral agency could be detrimental. The hospital needs to have access to more than one referral agency.

NO—The hospital should use however many resources are available or necessary to ensure that the best possible services are provided for the Deaf community.

NO—Hospitals should keep their options open to be able to have access to as many interpreters [as] possible, but it should be the hospital's priority to only provide qualified (certified) interpreters.

NO—The critical issue here is that deaf persons wishing to access hospital facilities, whether as a patient, visitor, or family member, must be given qualified interpreters. I do believe hospitals must contract with interpreter referral agencies and not attempt to provide their own in-house interpreters who may not always be available. Yes, contract with all available sources, in order to have more options and better guarantees of prompt interpreter services.

NO—I don't think it's wise to limit to one agency because this one agency might provide a less qualified interpreters. I have seen some agencies that provided a bad services. They ought to be stopped. Where are you, RID or NAD?

Readers have asked us how many "Faxview" responses we get every month.

This month's total: 267

Deaf Life

READERS' VIEWPOINT

FAXVIEW

DEAF LIFE would like to know what you think about major issues affecting the Deaf community. Tear out **or** photocopy this page and fax your response to (716) 442-6371, **or** mail it to us at Box 23380, Rochester, NY 14692-3380.

Do you agree that deaf people aren't qualified to be lifeguards since they can't hear "distress signals"?

❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Not sure

Comments: _____

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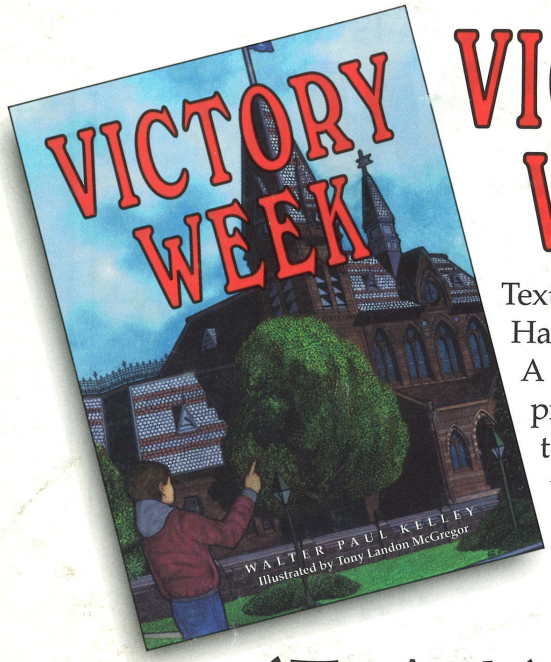

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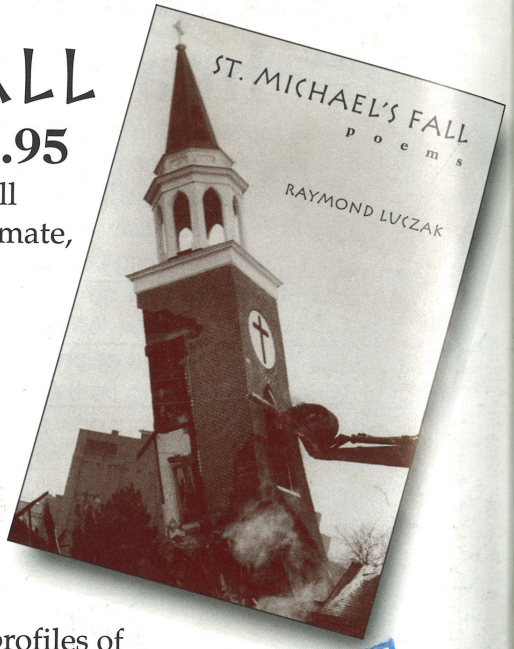

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APRIL 1996

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FROM THE WHITE HOUSE TO YOUR HOUSE:

NEW D.V. HOTLINE

"I call on American men and women in families to give greater respect to one another. We must end the deadly scourge of domestic violence in our country."—President Clinton, State of the Union Address, January 23, 1996

Violence against women is an urgent criminal and public-health problem with devastating consequences for women, children, and families.

On February 21, **President Clinton** announced a new, nationwide, 24-hour toll-free domestic-violence hotline. The TTY number is ☎1-800-787-3224; the voice number is ☎1-800-799-SAFE.

The **National Domestic Violence Hotline** provides immediate crisis-intervention assistance to those in need. Callers receive counseling and are connected directly to help in their communities, including emergency services and shelters. Also, operators can offer information and referrals, counseling, and assistance in reporting abuse to survivors of domestic violence, family members, neighbors, and the general public. Help is available to TTY users, and Spanish and other non-English speakers.

It's operated by the Texas Council on Family Violence, through a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services authorized under the Violence Against Women Act within the 1994 Crime Bill.

"The Clinton Administration is working to create a seamless system, so that no woman suffering from domestic violence falls through the cracks," said HHS Secretary **Donna E. Shalala**. "Now, with this national hotline, every woman will have access to the help she needs, wherever and whenever she needs it."

The Hotline operates throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The Texas Council on Family Violence in Austin, a leader and vital support to families in crisis for over 17 years, is staffing and operating the hotline. It's funded by three HHS agencies: Administration for Children and Families, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

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WHAT ELSE IS BEING DONE

Domestic violence causes terror and tears in American homes. Women bruised and battered. Calls for help that are never heard. Emotional scars that can plague our children for a lifetime. But we can make a difference, and we must. The Clinton Administration is working to address this tragic problem through a comprehensive range of initiatives:

The National Domestic Violence Hotline: President Clinton is committed to ensuring that every woman or man has access to information and emergency assistance, whenever and wherever they need It. The Hotline will go a long way toward providing that help. The National Hotline is operand by the Texas Council on Family Violence, through a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services authorized under the Violence Against Women Act.

The Violence Against Women Act: Passed as part of President Clinton's 1994 Crime Bill, the Act combines tough penalties with $1.6 billion to prosecute offenders and help abused women.

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What we want:

Send us anything you think is appropriate. Items should be of national, not just local, interest. Typed articles with photos preferred. Photos, etc., will be returned on request. We reserve the right to reject or edit any material.

When we need it:

Please send material by the first of the month for publication the following month, with a 10-day grace period. (Items for November 1992 publication, for example, must be sent before October 10.) The earlier, the better. We will not accept any story more than 1 month old.

Where to send it:

For regular **first-class mail**, please send to our P.O. box number: **DEAF LIFE** , c/o MSM Productions, Box 23380, Rochester, NY 14692-3380.

For **Express Mail** and **Federal Express**, please send to our office address: 1095 Meigs Street, Rochester, NY 14620.

No "free advertising!"

We are pleased to publish any organization or group's news and announcements, but will not provide "free advertising." We define "free advertising" as pushing a product. Any for-profit group, service, agency, company, or person who wishes to promote something in **DEAF LIFE Plus** is encouraged to place an ad. We will be happy to send you an ad-rate schedule on request. Nonprofit groups who advertise will get a special discount.

Anyone who sends us a press release incorporating {including} "free advertising" (such as announcing a new product or paid service) should include a "token" payment of $50.00. Warning: Any "promotional" press release sent to us without payment will be considered for publication—but we will omit {cut out} prices and addresses.

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Σ **More prosecutors and COPS.** The Act provides monies aimed at hiring more prosecutors. The Department of Justices Community Oriented Policing (COPS) to Combat Domestic Violence program makes $20 million available to police departments for community policing techniques that fight domestic violence.

Σ **More training.** The Act's money will also improve domestic-violence training among prosecutors, police officers, and health- and social-services providers.

Σ **More shelters.** The Act provides for more shelters, counseling services, and research into the causes of domestic violence, and effective public-education campaigns. In 1995, HHS awarded $32.6 million to states, territories, and tribes to provide shelter services to victims of family violence and their dependents.

Σ **Tougher laws**. Thai Act establishes new laws that enable victims to sue in federal court and allow law-enforcement officers to pursue offenders across state lines.

Σ **Federal coordination.** In March, 1995, President Clinton appointed former Iowa Attorney General Bonnie J. Campbell to head the Justice Department's Violence Against Women Office. It coordinates the Federal government's efforts to implement the Violence Against Women Act.

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AN ADVOCATE'S JOURNEY

As a member of the Professional Advisory Board for the National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVHL), I recently had the privilege of traveling to Washington D.C., to join with President Clinton, staff members of the White House Office for Women's Initiatives & Outreach, **Ellen Fisher**, Executive Director of the NDVHL, and interested and involved persons representing women's organizations across the nation.

I have served on the Professional Advisory Board for the NDVHL since it was just a dream. I shared in the joy when the funding finally came through. A short time ago I traveled to Austin, Texas, to provide the NDVHL staff and volunteers with an all-day training on providing services for persons who are Deaf or disabled. At a direct result of that training I was invited to represent the NDVHL at the White House for the kick-off on February 21.

It was a great honor to be invited to represent the National Domestic Violence Hotline at event. It was also one of the most exciting events of my life.

President Clinton spoke to the group of about 40 persons, plus reporters, stating that his administration is "committed to ensuring that every woman has access to information and emergency assistance, wherever and whenever she needs it." He said that domestic violence "causes terror in tears in American homes," and he called for American men to "stand today and make a commitment to never again raise their hand in violence against their family." He touched our hearts as he spoke of his personal experience in witnessing the battering of his own mother and of his desire to end violence in American homes And, finally, he spoke of the thousands of American women who are Deaf, who are also survivors of domestic violence, and who now have a national hotline, and of his hope that every television station, radio station, and newspaper in America would get the message and the numbers out to the public.

Hugs, handshakes, tears, and laughter were all caught on film to be shared with family, friends, and co-workers back home. Then on to the White House lawn for a press conference where the NDVHL representatives spoke with reporters from across the nation for the next hour. Back to the White House Women's Office for a wonderful conference call to share the information with women's agencies and service providers from several states.

Years of dreams and hard work had come to fruition on this great day. Years of educating the Deaf community about domestic violence, years of educating service providers about Deaf culture and the great need for TTY hotline numbers. In the past year I had provided the staff and volunteers of 5 shelters with training on issues of Deaf Culture and on TTY usage.

On this day, February 21, 1996, as I walked from the White House to my hotel, I felt exhausted, exhilarated, and very proud to be a part of this event.

—**Peggie Reyna**
Program Coordinator
Deaf & Disabled Services
In Power Women's Self-Defense
Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women

THE DIMARCO CASE: NYC CLEANS UP ITS ACT

On February 16, a settlement was reached that mandated the immediate hiring of **Charles DiMarco** of Queens as a sanitation worker after being rejected by the City of New York because he is deaf. His lawsuit was filed with the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York, citing a direct violation of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). DiMarco is the first deaf sanitation worker to be hired by the City of New York.

In September 1990, DiMarco successfully completed, with perfect scores, the written examination for Sanitation Worker, and, in November 1990, the competitive physical test. But he was medically disqualified from employment in 1993 solely because of his deafness.

Although the City's Civil Service Commission affirmed the disqualification, DiMarco challenged its actions as violating federal law—the ADA.

Pursuant to° the settlement reached February 16 in the action pending before Judge **Reena Raggi** and Magistrate Judge **Steven Gold**, DiMarco's medical disqualification on the basis of his deafness was rescinded,° and DiMarco was

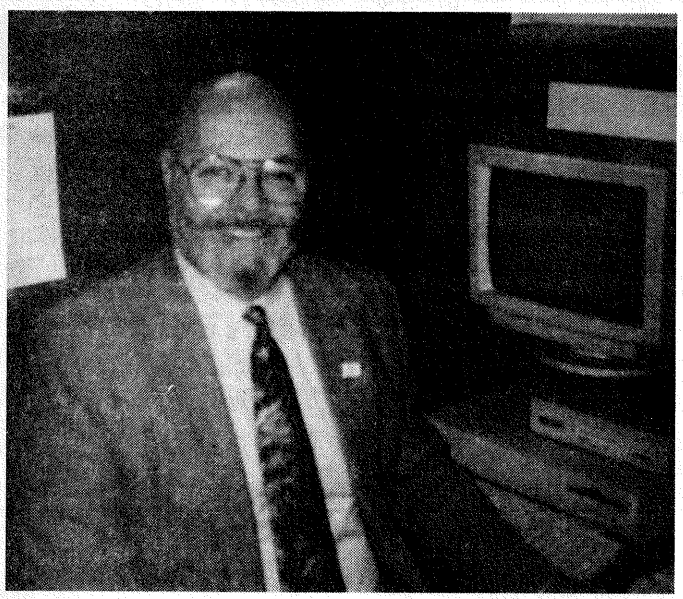
appointed to the position of Sanitation Worker retroactive° to August 9, 1993. He was told that he'd begin working within 60 days.

He was represented by **Ralph G. Reiser**, Esq., a deaf attorney with offices in Hicksville, New York. Reiser was assisted by **Gregory J. Hlibok**, Esq., one of a few deaf attorneys in private practice. The City was represented by Assistant Corporation Counsel **Andrew A. Jones**, Esq. and Assistant Corporation Counsel **David L. Lock**, Esq.

Hlibok explains, "As soon as we filed the ADA complaint, the City attorney made an offer of settlement, but negotiation took some time, covering various issues such as back pay, seniority, prompt hiring, examination requirements, etc. Mr. DiMarco is expected to start his employment with the Department of Sanitation in early April."

pursuant to: as a result of.
rescinded: revoked; nullified; withdrawn.
retroactive: being backdated.

AL SONNENSTRAHL RETIRES



At TDI's February 24-25 Board meeting, **Al Sonnenstrahl** announced his decision to retire as Executive Director. The Board accepted Al's resignation, effective April 1, and wished him the best with his future. To ensure a smooth transition and continued effectiveness of TDI's office operations, transition plans were drawn up and implemented.

Sonnenstrahl has been associated with TDI for many years. He first became involved with TDI as a Board member and was appointed Acting Executive Director of TDI in February 1987, replacing **Thomas M. Mentkowski**. That July, Sonnenstrahl became permanent Executive Director. During his 9-year tenure, TDI made significant advances. These include:

✆ increasing the number of TTY listings in the "Blue Book" (**TDI National Directory**) from approximately 9,000 to 55,000;

✆ lobbying effectively for 9-1-1 accessibility in Title 2 of the ADA and telecommunications-relay relay service in Title 4;

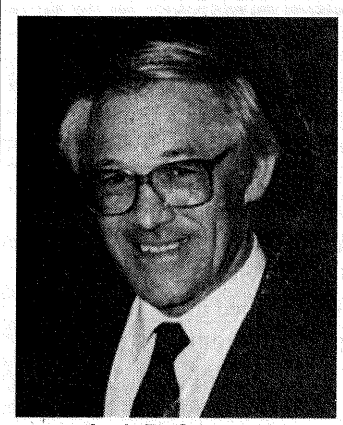
✆ providing ongoing consultation to state governments, deaf communities, local and long-distance telephone companies, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC);

✆ developing a self-evaluation training package for all emergency-services personnel, including 9-1-1;

✆ conducting successful TDI conventions.

A panel of three Board members have been appointed to conduct a national search for a new Executive Director. If you'd like to receive a copy of the job announcement, contact TDI President **Lori Breslow** at ☎(612) 297-6700 (TTY/Voice) or at ❖breslow@PioneerPlanet.infi.net (E-mail). Leave your name, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address on the answering machine.

BACK TO THE FARM— AND THE BOOKS



Jack R. Gannon

At the February 9 meeting of the Gallaudet University Board of Trustees, Gallaudet President **I. King Jordan** announced that Dr. **Jack R. Gannon**, Special Assistant to the President for Advocacy, would be the speaker at this year's commencement exercises, May 10, in the Gallaudet Field House. His address to the Class of 1996 will be "Gallaudet's Legacy and Promise."

Dr. Jordan then paused and informed the board that Gannon, a noted author, leader in the nation's Deaf community, and one of Gallaudet's strongest advocates, will retire in November, ending a distinguished 28-year career at the University.

On the Green, Gallaudet's staff and faculty newsletter, said: "Next to Jordan, Gannon is undoubtedly one of the most visible and admired people at the University. Through his achievements and his many lectures, he serves as a constant reminder for young deaf people of what they are capable of achieving."

A 1959 graduate of Gallaudet College, Gannon began his career there in 1968 when he was chosen as the first Director of Alumni Relations and Executive Secretary of the Gallaudet College Alumni Association—two separate positions that

overlapped. In 1971, his responsibilities were expanded when the Office of Public Relations was placed under his direction. He remained in this capacity until 1989, when Dr. Jordan asked him to serve as the Special Assistant to the President for Advocacy. He succeeded **Merv Garretson** on his retirement.

He is the author of two highly acclaimed books, **Deaf Heritage: a Narrative History of Deaf America** (1981), and **The Week the World Heard Gallaudet**, a photo-chronicle of DPN Week in March 1988. Later that year, Gannon was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Gallaudet University.

As to what Gannon plans to do after he retires, **On the Green** quoted Dr. Jordan: "You know Jack; he won't be gone from Gallaudet. He'll be spending a lot of time in the Archives." **On the Green** asked Gannon what his plans were. "On the day after I retire, I plan to officially launch my new career as a farmer!" According to the report, he and **Rosalyn** "plan to grow cut-your-own Christmas trees and maybe breed dogs—boxers—at their farm near New Market, Maryland." But he agreed that he'd be continuing his writing. He is finishing up a history of the World Federation of the Deaf and has begun a collection of real-life tales with a humorous slant. Besides the books he's working on now, he has other projects, including "some volunteer work. I expect to return to the campus often to do research. Of course, I am going to miss the students and all the wonderful folks on Kendall Green."

Bestowing the honors: During the 127th commencement exercises on May 10, Gallaudet will award Honorary Doctorate degrees to three distinguished persons: Dr. Robert Davila, former Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in the U.S. Department of Education (OSERS), and currently headmaster of the New York School for the Deaf in White Plains ("Fanwood"); Dr. **George Detmold**, former dean at Gallaudet from 1953 to 1970; and **Alexander Fleischman**, a leader who has provided dedicated service to the Deaf community for 55 years.

Three Gallaudet faculty members will also be granted Professor Emeritus status: The recipients are: Dr. **Yerker Andersson**, Professor of Sociology and current Chair of the Department of Deaf Studies; Dr. **Deborah Sonnenstrahl**, Professor and former Chair of the Art Department; and **Herbert Woofter**, Associate Professor of Audiology and Speech, Communication Arts, and former Chair of the Department of Communication Arts.

Taking the helm: Dr. **Ronald E. Sutcliffe** has been appointed Interim Dean of the School of Management at Gallaudet University. He replaces Dr. **James R. Speegle**, the school's first dean, who took leave to concentrate on looking for other advancement opportunities. Sutcliffe has been a Gallaudet employee since 1959, holding a variety of positions in the Division of Administration and Business and became a member of the University faculty in 1988. Prior to his appointment as interim dean, he served as academic chair in the School of Management. He also served as chair of the Council on Undergraduate Education when the University was undergoing curriculum revision.

A native of Iowa, he received his Bachelor's degree from Gallaudet in 1959, and his Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Administration from the University of Maryland at College Park.

Announcing his appointment, Dr. **Roslyn Rosen**, Vice President for Academic Affairs, said: "It is with regret that accept Dr. Speegle's decision, but I want to make this transition as smooth as possible. Speegle has always kept the University's larger vision in mind, and has encouraged growth among his faculty and the School itself. His philosophy of 'growing our own' is now bearing fruit and some of the people he has encouraged and trained are now assuming positions of leadership."

Team effort: A University Conference Management (UCM) team has been set up to provide program-support services for meetings, seminars, and conferences held in the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center (GUKCC). UCM, within the University's College for Continuing Education, is comprised of deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing professionals with more than 25 years' combined experience in conference planning.

The GUKCC is a state-of-the-art meeting place—both accessible and comfortable. It offers a variety of services such as telecaptioning; closed-microphone (infrared) assistive-listening and translation capabilities; broadcasting and downlinking through satellite or telecommunication lines; and audio and visual amplification, recording and editing, and captioned televisions in all meeting rooms. It can accommodate groups from 10 to 300 people, and has 87 bedrooms and a free parking garage on campus.

"We are very excited about the University Conference Management and their commitment to the Gallaudet and Deaf communities as a whole," said Dr. Jordan. "UCM recognizes the ever growing need for continuing education and we want to work with deaf, hard-of-hearing, and disability-related organizations at the national level."

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation gave Gallaudet the $12 million grant that made the Conference Center possible. Since it opened last fall, several major conferences have been held and many more have been reserved. Some of the upcoming events include:

- *Standard of Care in Mental Health Seminar*
- *Effective Business English Seminar*
- *Technology in the Classroom and Technology Techniques in the Field of Deaf Education Conference*
- *Deaf Studies V: Towards 2000 Unity and Diversity Conference*

For more information about available services, call ☎(202) 651-6060 (TTY/Voice) or write: University Conference Management, Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference

Center, 800 Florida Ave., N.E., Washington, DC 20002. Or contact UCM by E-mail at ❖Conference@Gallua.Gallaudet.edu.

Coming up: Charter Day Banquet, honors: The Gallaudet University Alumni Association (GUAA) and its Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund (LCCF) are hosting its 27th annual Charter Day Banquet and Awards Program on Saturday, April 13, at the Peikoff Alumni House ("Ole Jim") on the Kendall Green campus. The banquet, which celebrates the signing of Gallaudet's charter by President **Abraham Lincoln** on April 8, 1864, will begin at 3;:00 p.m. with "A Trip Down Memory Lane on Kendall Green" with **Francis Higgins**, '36, as tour guide. Happy hour begins at 5:00 p.m.; dinner follows at 6:00 p.m.

Dr. **Donalda Kay Ammons**, '74, Professor, Department of Foreign Languages, is Mistress of Ceremonies. A Charter Day Slide Show of past and present scenes at Gallaudet will be featured.

GUAA and LCCF will present awards to six deaf notables. The GUAA Outstanding Young Alumnus Award will go to **Lindsay Dunn** ('85), of Maryland, and the GUAA Pauline "Polly" Peikoff Service to Others Award, to **Georgia Ward Morikawa** ('52), of Hawaii.

The Laurent Clerc Award, which is presented to a deaf person for outstanding social contributions, will be given to **Ausma Lidija Smits** ('61) of Maryland. The Alice Cogswell Award for valuable service on behalf of deaf people, goes to **Robert L. Miller** (E-'38) of California. The Edward Miner Gallaudet Award, in recognition of national/international leaders for promoting the well-being of deaf people of the world, goes to Dr. **Cesare Magarotto** of Rome. The Amos Kendall Award, for notable excellence in a professional field not related to deafness, goes to **Albert J. Hlibok** of Flushing, New York.

GUAA and its LCCF Committee are now accepting nominations for next year's awards. If you know of anyone who would be worthy recipients, please send your nominations to **Mary Anne Pugin**, '71, GUAA Executive Director, Peikoff Alumni House, Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Avenue N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002).

Banquet seating is limited, so advance reservations ($25) are required, and should be sent to **Daphne Cox McGregor**, '82, Peikoff Alumni House. Deadline for reservations is April 1. For more information, call ☎(202) 651-5081 (TTY) or ☎(202) 651-5060 (Voice). Internet users can e-mail ❖dcmcgregor@gallua.gallaudet.edu.

E.Y.F.: EYE TO THE FUTURE

This summer, deaf students planning to start their senior year of high school in the fall can explore their futures at NTID.* Explore Your Future (EYF) is a week-long transition-education program in which students from across the country stay on the RIT campus and learn about careers in technology and college-preparatory strategies. From a program that began in 1985 with 18 participants, EYF has grown steadily over the years. Last summer's group of 136 students was the largest yet, prompting plans for EYF 1996 to include two sessions of 100 students each. Sessions will be July 20-26 and July 27-August 2.

EYF's goal is to allow students to gain hands-on experience in five technical areas (business, computer science, engineering, imaging technology, and science), and to experience the rigors of college life. In addition to meeting with faculty members and career-development counselors, EYF participants get a taste of campus life through social and sporting activities to help develop their leadership skills, self-confidence, and resourcefulness. Such activities help students gain a clearer image of what their lives will be like after they leave the "cocoon" of high school and begin their journey into adulthood.

There's also plenty of fun packed into the week. During last summer's program, students enjoyed a Hawaiian party, attended a minor-league baseball game, and went bowling. These activities provided participants ample opportunities to socialize.

Parents, too, participate in EYF through a Parent Transition Workshop, which focuses on strategies that parents can use to encourage their children's independence and preparation for college. The 1-1/2 day workshop begins on Thursday morning and concludes on Friday at noon, the final day of EYF.

For fee and application information, contact Department of Educational Outreach, NTID, 52 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, New York 14623-5604; ☎(716) 475-7129 (TTY/Voice). Deadline for applications is June 15.

**Just for the record, NTID's full name is the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, and it's one of 8 colleges of Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York.*

SOMETHING TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO

A new scholarly publication, **Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education** (Oxford University Press), which integrates both basic and applied research on cultural, developmental, linguistic, and educational topics, premiered in January. The quarterly **Journal** serves the needs of academic and professional communities as well as lay audiences.

It's edited by **Marc Marschark**, Ph.D., Director of NTID's

Center for Research, Teaching and Learning. "Many people have been asking for a publication like this for years," says Marschark, who also is author of **Psychological Development of Deaf Children** and the forthcoming **Growing Up Deaf**. "The need for high-quality research in this field has never been greater. This journal will be an authoritative source of information on both theoretical and practical issues."

Each issue contains two sections: theoretical and review articles and empirical° articles. The first issue featured articles on such topics as reading and vocabulary, social adjustment of deaf adolescents, interpreting services, and deaf college students' perceptions of communication in mainstream classes. Occasional special issues will focus on topics of significant concern or controversy. Planned special theme issues include "Cognitive Development and Deafness," slated for Fall 1996, and "Memory and Information Processing" in Summer 1997.

Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education is published and supported by Oxford University Press. Associate editors are **Susan Foster**, of NTID's Educational and Career Research Department; **Patricia Siple**, of the Department of Psychology at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan; and **Patricia Spencer**, of the Center for Educational Studies and Human Development, Gallaudet University. Sample copies and additional information are available from Oxford at ☎1-800-852-7323.

empirical: relating to actual experience (as opposed to theory).

SHARING THE HONORS

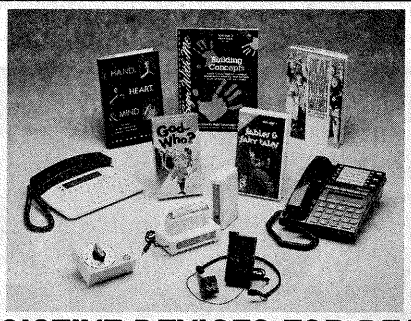
Ryan M. Griske, a 1991 alumnus of Mill Neck Manor, was recently selected as an RIT Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar. As an RIT Scholar, he joins an elite group of students who have completed a minimum of 125 quarter credit hours of study and have established a cumulative grade-point-average of 3.85 for all college work attempted, at RIT or elsewhere.

He's being honored at an award ceremony, reception, and dinner on April 11, 1996, and will be presented with a medallion designed by the late **Professor Hans Christensen** of the School for American Crafts.

As part of the award ceremony, RIT honors high-school or community-college teachers of Outstanding Scholars. This is an opportunity for scholars to recognize someone they feel had a profound influence on their career and life. Griske identified Mill Neck Manor High School Math Teacher **Linda King** as the "best." He took courses in algebra, geometry, and trigonometry with her while attending Mill Neck Manor.

"Ms. King is a wonderful deaf role model who motivates young deaf people to do well in all their math classes," he wrote. "Her math courses are a perfect college preparatory tool for every student. As a result, I am well prepared to learn many complicated math and programming concepts at RIT.

1996 CATALOG AVAILABLE NOW



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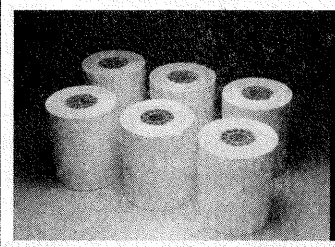

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Ms. King has given me a fine foundation. I think that she should be recognized in return for all her endeavors."

Accordingly, King was invited to attend the RIT festivities on Griske's behalf.

"GREAT SHOWING"

Mill Neck Manor's cheerleading squad: Coach Christine DiBenedetto with Christina Laurice, Michelle Coelho, Melissa Estrella, and Shameka Edwards.

Mill Neck Manor hosted the Division III Annual Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association Boys' Basketball and Girls' Cheerleading Tournament February 21 to 23.

"The tournament was a complete success," said Principal and Athletic Director **Dennis Tobin**. The five other schools participating in the event were the Governor Baxter School, Maine; Scranton State, Pennsylvania; New York State School for the Deaf, Rome; Learning Center, Framingham, Massachusetts; Delaware School, Newark.

Over 100 students, including cheerleaders and players, stayed in local hotels, enjoyed intense competition, made new friends, and became re-acquainted with old ones.

"The Mill Neck Manor teams made great showing," said Tobin. The cheerleaders came in second place in their competition with Mill Neck Manor cheerleader **Shameka Edwards** being selected to the first team All-Stars.

The boys' squad upset NYSSD on the first day of the tournament, but experienced difficulty with Delaware the following night, losing 59-27. Delaware became the champion by defeating Scranton on the final night with a score of 69-47. In addition to the boys' 4th-place showing, they won the "21" competition and were honored with the Team Sportsmanship Award for the third consecutive year.

Two Mill Neck Manor basketball players, **Nidia Chevez** and **Tom Paulay**, were selected to the second team All-Stars.

Said Tobin: "Congratulations go to our coaches, **Tim Sorrentino**, **Martin Breiter**, **Christine DiBenedetto**, and **Karen Carlson-Sorrentino**."

Adding to the success of the tournament was a strong show of support from the business community. NatWest Bank was a generous co-sponsor of this year's event. "At NatWest, we believe there is no better way to invest in the future than by helping the school children in our communities," said **Jennifer Proscia**, a NatWest Officer. At the award ceremony, Tobin presented her with a plaque honoring the Bank's support.

In addition, Avon Reproductions, located in Farmingdale, donated the printing of the tournament souvenir program, and Brotherhood Studios, based in Valley Stream, donated the screening and printing of the T-shirts. Other businesses and school groups, including the PTAs and Alumni, took out paid advertising in the souvenir program, which also helped cover the costs of the tournament.

INTERPRETERS' PILGRIMAGE

Bill Wrede, Coordinator of the Sign School at Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis, began his mission on Long Island by teaching a workshop, "Palm Sunday to Easter: An Interpreter's Journey," sponsored by the Mill Neck Foundation. Sixteen church interpreters (fifteen from Long Island and one from Springfield, Massachusetts) met at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Glen Cove, New York, on February 2-3, 1996.

The participants, new and experience church interpreters, started and closed their work sessions with devotions in the church sanctuary. The working sessions included different approaches to interpreting liturgy, lessons, and hymns for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

"The feedback from the participants was very positive," says **Barbara Lanman**, Coordinator of Deaf Ministry for the Mill Neck Foundation. "Many felt that we should be offering this kind of workshop for Advent, Christmas, and all the seasons of the church year."

A beginning interpreter for the church commented, "This was a real introduction to the 'world' of interpreting for me. Never having interpreted, it made me realize how much preparation you all must do to make 'the Word' come alive for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing! I admire you and I am in awe of you!"

OF EAGLES & HAMS

Don't tell 15-year-old **Toby Metz** that his main priorities are supposed to be getting his driver's license and finding a date for the next school dance. Like most other kids his age, Metz is interested in these things, but his level of dedication to his community, scouting, and Amateur Radio separates him from other teenagers.

When he began working on his service project to become an Eagle Scout, for example, he chose to teach deaf students the skills they need to pass their entry-level Amateur Radio ("ham radio") License exam.

Ham radio is a form of personal, non-commercial radio

communication. Metz's students, who range in age from 9 to the mid-40s, communicate via packet radio, a digital format for messages sent over Amateur Radio frequencies and displayed on computer terminals.

"When I began my service project to become an Eagle Scout, I wanted to find a way to combine scouting and ham radio, two of my favorite hobbies," says Metz, who lives in Meridian, Idaho. "By teaching ham radio to people with hearing disabilities, I have not only fulfilled my Eagle Scout requirements, but am also getting the chance to make an impact on the lives of those less fortunate than myself by introducing them to something they can get involved in and enjoy."

Through contact with the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind in Gooding, he found two students right away, and picked up a third who joined after he found out more about the project. Metz quickly found that the students were not the only ones who had to overcome obstacles to make the project a success.

"When I started the project, I was only 14 years old and did not have much money. This made it a challenge to get the equipment I needed. Learning how to speak and teach ham radio in sign language was no easier. My younger students had a difficult time understanding the text in the study manual and a lot of Amateur Radio terms did not have a sign-language translation and had to be written out to be understood."

But Metz was very persistent in his efforts to start his project. A month's worth of hard work and determination paid off. A series of requests, resolutions, and presentations to the Boise mayor and city council for used computer equipment and radios, and a request to the Voice of Idaho Radio Club for donations, produced most of the equipment necessary to start the project.

Metz soon began learning sign language through a member of his church who worked with the deaf, and started teaching his students the skills they needed to pass their test. Communication between Metz and his students was not very smooth, however, making the process very lengthy.

"I had to remember that my students work hard just to communicate. They have to work even harder to learn Amateur Radio rules and regulations set up by the FCC and how a radio works," says Metz. "A normal Amateur Radio class takes 8 weeks, but I had to take it much slower, even if it meant spending 32 weeks getting the students ready for their exams."

Although the classes were frustrating at times for both Metz and his students, the project was a success. So far, one student, **Bill Blohm** of Nampa, has passed his technician-level exam, and two others students are hoping to take their tests soon. Currently, Metz is teaching Morse code to Blohm and his 14-year-old son (who's hearing), and has picked up three other hearing students as well.

Metz has received a great deal of support for his project from a number of people, including **Heather Whitestone**, the former Miss America, who sent him an autographed picture and note.

"I'm happy that so many people are behind me and would like to see my project continue," he says. "It will tales a lot more equipment and support to keep the project going, but I haven't let obstacles stop me yet. Amateur radio can make a difference in people's lives. I've seen it happen."

Although Metz has fulfilled his requirements and is now an Eagle Scout, he says he still plans to continue his project.

Today, there are more than 650,000 Amateur Radio operators in the United States and more than 2.5 million worldwide. Information on how to become involved in ham radio is available from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 or by calling ☎1-800-32-NEW-HAM; ❐(860) 594-0259 (FAX).

HITCHING A SUPERHIGHWAY RIDE

a report from FOLDA-USA

As President **Bill Clinton** signed into law the Telecommunications Act of 1996, he said it will change forever the way American people communicate. No doubt, the new technology will also change the way the deaf community will live, work, learn, and govern together.

Unfortunately, however, it can also widen the gap in America between the "information-rich" and "information-poor."

Recent studies have shown that fewer than one in three U.S. households owns a computer. Those living in rural areas and inner-city neighborhoods are the least likely to be connected. Families with incomes over $50,000 are five times more likely to have access to computers and ten times more likely to have access to online services than those in less "comfortable" circumstances. African-American and Latino schoolchildren are less likely to have access to computers, either at home and at school, than are other children. We all know that many members of the deaf community do not yet own a computer. Many of them also live in rural areas, inner-cities, and have incomes of less than $50,000. The Deaf community includes Blacks and Latinos, including many children who attend poorly-financed schools.

The nation's public libraries that are online can support equal access for such people in many ways. These include:

✏ providing free public access to vital information resources;

✏ teaching people of all ages to use the new technology;

✏ serving as a hub for their community's electronic-information services;

✏ making their collections accessible online both to their communities and around the world;

✏ staying abreast of new technology;

✏ advocating free and open access to computerized information.

Unfortunately, the high cost of technology has made it

difficult for most public and school libraries to keep pace. However, the number of libraries connected to the information superhighway is growing rapidly thanks to the leadership of librarians and support from their farseeing communities. But there is still a long way to go before equity is achieved for all Americans - both hearing and deaf.

How can the Deaf community help support equity on the information superhighway for the nation's libraries? FOLDA has two suggestions.

Join your *local* Friends of the Library. Almost every public, college, and university library has a support group of concerned citizens.

If you belong to a state deaf association, form a library committee, called FOLDA. Local FOLDA representative will be invited to participate in the FOLDA-USA workshop and meeting at the NAD biennial convention in Portland, Oregon. For more information, join FOLDA-USA, 814 Thayer Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910-4500. Annual dues for FOLDA-USA are only $5 if you are already a member of the NAD. FOLDA-USA is one its sections.

All can do their part. Join us!

—**Alice L. Hagemeyer**, President, FOLDA-USA

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, WORKSHOPS, FESTIVALS, & RETREATS

STAR ATTRACTION

The Annual Spring Gala on Deafness is being held Friday, April 12, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., in Founders Hall Auditorium, Northwestern Connecticut Community-Technical College. It's sponsored by the NCCC Career Education of the Deaf Program, the NCCC Deaf Club, and the Cultural Planning Committee.

A special attraction is **Ernest Marshall**. As many of our readers already know, he was an innovative, independent, self-taught filmmaker-director who created several ASL feature films, using volunteer casts and crews, shoestring budgets (he financed his own films), and lots of talent and imagination. DawnSign Press has said of him: "Hollywood could have learned a few tricks from this brilliant deaf moviemaker as he innovated to please the deaf audiences his films were intended for. Marshall's films mostly mimic old silent movies with heavy theatrics and melodramatic acting, creating a sensation with deaf audiences." Decades after they were made, they're still watchable.

For last-minute reservations ($10), contact **Albert T. Pimentel**, c/o Connecticut Association of the Deaf, 292 Niles Road, Winsted, CT 06098; ☎(203) 379-3886 or ☎(203) 379-9749 (both TTY/Voice); ❐(203) 738-6439 (FAX).

Marshall will be making an appearance at the Community Arts Room, Nanuet Mall, Stony Point, New York, on Friday, April 19, from 7-9:30 p.m. Two of his films will be shown; a sign-language interpreter is provided. **Alice Jane** and **George Potanovic, Jr.**, whose portraits were featured in the **DEAF LIFE** cover story on Marshall (February 1995), are sponsoring the presentation through Arts 'N Such, a community partnership, in conjunction with the Arts Alliance of Haverstraw. For more information, call the Arts Alliance at ☎(914) 786-0253 or ☎(914) 786-5454 (TTY/Voice).

DALLAS CELEBRATES

Once again the Dallas Deaf Community is planning to celebrate its heritage, culture, and ASL with a week-long series of events (April 21-28). Formerly called "Deaf Awareness Week," it's been renamed *Deaf Celebration '96*. **Mark Branson** is the chair. He and the planning committee are hoping to build on the great success of last year's events, and perhaps even top its record-breaking turnout.

Events include:

Sunday, April 21: An opening ceremony with elected government officials from Dallas. **Angel Ramos** coordinated this event. Special recognition awards will also be presented.

Monday, April 22: an open house at Green Oaks Mental Health Services for the Deaf, in Dallas. **Debbie White**, Coordinator of Deaf Services, and an all-Deaf Advisory Board, is coordinating this event.

Tuesday, April 23: The return of last year's extremely popular event, "It's a Deaf, Deaf World," at Collin Community College, where an Interpreter Preparation Program was recently started. It's coordinated by **Sue Qualls** with the help of the Sign Language Club students and Deaf Adults volunteers.

Thursday, April 25: An open forum, "'Deaf Culture—Everything You Wanted to Know but Were Afraid to Ask," moderated by Branson.

There will be plenty of entertainment during the week. On Friday, April 26, there will be an open house, booths, and talent show at the Dallas Community Center of the Deaf. The Southwest Theater of the Deaf Company will present ***The Marriage Proposal***. There will be various skits by Deaf children, and a guest performance by Branson, a former NTD actor.

The weekend is also for fun, "'family time," and includes the perfect event: rollerskating for Deaf children and parents. This event is coordinated by **Cindy Nagy** and **Cathy Ware**.

The week will wrap up with informational booths, exhibits, and performances at the North Park Center on Sunday, April 28. This event is coordinated by Branson and **Marianne Sasseen**.

Funding was provided by U.S. Sprint in Austin Texas, Dallas Community Center of the Deaf, and fundraising events by the *Deaf Celebration '96* committee.

No successful event can take place without the cooperation of planners and coordinators. The *Deaf Celebration '96* committee includes members of the Dallas Coalition of Presidents (C.O.P.s), which is composed of five Deaf organizations in the metroplex: Dallas Black Deaf Advocates, Dallas

Community Center of the Deaf, Dallas County Deaf Caucus, Dallas Metro Club of the Deaf, and Spanish Deaf Association of Dallas. For more information, contact one of these organizations.

★

Celebration schedule

Sunday, April 21: *Opening Ceremony*. Meet our elected county, city and state officials as we kick off our *Deaf Celebration '96* activities. They'll discuss how we can work together to improve delivery of services to the Deaf community. County Commissioner **John Wiley Price** will also offer suggestions on what we can do to improve our rights. A reception and annual awards presentation will follow. Admission: FREE

2 p.m.-4 p.m., City Council Chambers, 5th floor, City Hall, Downtown Dallas

Monday, April 22: *Open House at Green Oaks*. Come meet the staff and board members of the Green Oaks Services for the Deaf program. Learn about the various programs that are available to the Deaf community—dealing with vital issues like stress, depression, sex abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, marriage relationships, family relationships, etc. Admission: FREE

6:30 p.m.-8 p.m., Green Oaks, 7808 Clodus Fields Drive, Dallas (near Medical City Hospital, off LBJ and Forest)

Tuesday, April 23: *It's a Deaf, Deaf World*. Find out what it would be like if you lived in an all-Deaf world! This is a fun, exciting, and exhilarating event. You will visit a bank, grocery store, travel agency, and other local everyday establishments where all staff and clerks are DEAF—not hearing. This activity was a tremendous hit last year and is being repeated by popular demand. Sponsored by the staff and students of the Collin County Community College Sign Language Program. Admission: $2.

7 p.m.-10 p.m., Collin County Community College, 2800 E. Spring Parkway, Plano

Thursday, April 23: *Deaf Culture: Everything You Wanted to Know But Were Afraid to Ask*. Find out what Deaf culture is all about: values, traditions, customs, ASL, and much more. For parents, teachers of deaf children, and the Deaf community. Admission: FREE

7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Callier Center, 1966 Inwood Road, Dallas

Friday April 26: *Open House and Talent Show*. A fun night of entertainment as our local Deaf talent puts on a show that will not soon be forgotten! Various businesses and local organizations will have booths to share information with you as well as to sell merchandise. Admission: $2

7 p.m.-2 a.m., Dallas Community Center of the Deaf, 4216 Maple Avenue, Dallas

Friday, April 26: *Southwest Theater of the Deaf (SWTD) presents* ***The Marriage Proposal***. A one-act play by SWTD, plus various skits performed by Deaf children and a s guest performance by Mark Branson. Admission: Adults: $5, children: $2.

7 p.m.-9 p.m., Callier Center, 1966 Inwood Road, Dallas

Sunday, April 28: *Deaf Celebration '96 at Northpark Center*. Performances by Deaf talent, exhibits, booths with information on Deaf culture, local Deaf organizations, service providers, college programs, and assistive devices. Interpreters provided for hearing audiences members.

1 p.m.-5 p.m., Northpark Center, Park Lane and I-75 (Central Expressway)

DEAF AWARENESS IN GEORGIA

In May, the Georgia Deaf Community will be celebrating Deaf Awareness Month. The Third Annual Deafestival begins on May 4. Deaf and Hearing are welcome to share in the festivities.

For those unfamiliar with the concept (or practice), the purpose of Deaf Awareness Month is to draw attention to people who are deaf and give the hearing population a better understanding of the culture, the language, and the "people."

The Deafestival is a positive and interactive way to honor Deaf achievement and to bring about a better understanding of the day-to-day obstacles deaf people encounter and how they continue to break those barriers. It's also a way to educate the public about the discrimination deaf people have encountered, giving them a better understanding of deafness and focusing on the abilities, not the disability, of deaf people,

For more information, contact: **Salena Troy**, Publicity Coordinator, day: ☎(770) 961-5400; evening: ☎ 770-860-1467 (TTY); ☎(770) 388-9809 (Voice). Address: Georgia Deaf Awareness, Ltd., 7575 Hunters Woods Dr., Dunwoody, GA 30350.

SIGN CHOIR FESTIVAL '96

The Sign Choir Festival—which attracted more than 900 people last year—is back—and better than ever! The '96 Festival will be held on September 28 in Forth Worth, Texas, in the Tarrant County Convention Center. There will be workshops for everyone: Translating English to ASL, Drama & Choreography, Interpreting for the Performing Arts, Religious Music, Working with Children's Choirs, and much more. Presenters and special guests TBA. The concert portion will feature choirs and professional performers from several states. It's hosted by the Sign Music Foundation. For more information, to register, or to become a member of the SMF, contact **Becky Sue Parton**, Director, at ☎(817) 383-0527, write: 1610 E. McKinney #1901, Denton, TX, 76201. Choirs and individuals who would like to submit information for publication in the **Silent Notes** newsletter may do so by writing to the same address.

IN A WORD: PARTNERSHIPS

The 26th Southeast Regional Institute on Deafness, *Part-*

ners at Work: Advancing Options and Independence, will be held November 2 to 5, at the Nashville Airport Marriott, Nashville, Tennessee. For more information, contact:

Sherri Rademacher, Director
Tennessee Council for the Hearing Impaired
400 Deaderick Street, 11th Floor
Nashville, TN 37248-6300
☎(615) 313-4911 (TTY/Voice)
or
Cathy Steger, Conference Co-Chair
☎(615) 313-6601 (TTY); ☎(615) 313-4917 (Voice); ☎(615) 74-6508 (FAX)

BRIEFLY NOTED

➨ The Second Annual Deaf AIDS Retreat Weekend is being held Thursday to Saturday, April 11-14, at Cape Cod Sea Camps, Brewster, Massachusetts. Hosted by D.E.A.F., Inc.'s AIDS Project, it's exclusively for Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons living with HIV/AIDS. Contact AIDS Project staff for more information at ☎(617) 259-4041 (TTY/Voice) or ❒(617) 254-7091 (FAX).

➨ The *6th World Deaf Magicians Festival* is being held April 14-22, at NTID. See item below.

➨ *Challenge of Change: Beyond the Horizon: Seventh Biennial Conference on Postsecondary Education for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing*, will be held April 17-20, at the Knoxville Hilton, Knoxville, Tennessee. Contact: **Marcia Kolvitz**, In-Service Training Coordinator, Postsecondary Education Consortium, The University of Tennessee, 125 Claxton Addition, Knoxville, TN 37996-3400; ☎(615) 974-8427 (TTY/Voice); ☎(615) 974-3522 (FAX).

➨ The Gallaudet University Regional Center at Johnson County Community College will host a 2-day seminar, *Management of Non-Profit Organizations Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People*, in Bloomington, Minnesota, on April 26 and 27. Registration fee: $80 for either the Friday or Saturday workshops, $125 for both or $200 for both for two people from the same agency. For room-reservation information, call the Hotel Sofitel at ☎1-800-876-6303 or ☎612-835-3888 (both Voice), or ❒(612) 835-2696 (FAX). For registration information, contact **Kim Brown**, Workshop Manager, Gallaudet University Regional Center at ☎(913) 469-3872 (TTY/Voice) ❒(913) 469-4416 (FAX).

➨ Thresholds will hold its fourth international *Breakout Conference* on psychosocial rehabilitation and deafness, May 1-3, at the Swissôtel in Chicago. Focus: "Innovations in Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Deafness." Contact: Thresholds Bridge for the Deaf, ☎(312) 989-1875 (TTY); ☎(312) 989-6991 (Voice); ❒(312) 989-1075 (FAX).

➨ Deaf Cares Project, Inc. will hold a retreat in Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 9-12. For Deaf people who are living with HIV/AIDS. Site: the Madonna Center. Co-sponsors: National Coalition on Deaf Community and HIV, Inc., Albuquerque Community Outreach Program for the Deaf, and HIV Coordinating Council of New Mexico. Contact Retreat Coordinator **Steve Kennedy** at Deaf Cares Project Retreat Program; P.O. Box 15931; North Hollywood, CA, 91615-5931; ☎(818) 765-1548 TTY.

➨ The Gallaudet University Regional Center at Flagler College is sponsoring the *Third Southeast Regional Conference for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Women*, May 17-19, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Contact: GURC, P.O. Box 1027, St. Augustine, Florida 32085 or call ☎(904) 829-2424 (TTY) or ☎(904) 829-6481, extension 216 (Voice).

➨ Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action (FOLDA-USA) will hold a workshop and meeting during NAD's biennial convention in Portland, Oregon, July 1-6. Ideas for expanding **The Red Notebook** concept will also be on the FOLDA-USA agenda. Contact: **Alice L. Hagemeyer**, President, FOLDA-USA, 2930 Craiglawn Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20904-1816. ❒(301) 572-4134 (FAX).

➨ Intertribal Deaf Council is holding its Third National Convention for the Native American Deaf from July 5-7, at Yakima Nation Cultural Center in Toppenish, Washington. Contact **Will Yaska**, IDC President, P.O. Box 33095, Seattle, WA 98133. ☎(206) 684-4924 (TTY-Work); ☎(206) 362-7289 (TTY—Home); or via Relay Washington at ☎1-800-833-6384.

➨ The 5th Deaf GLOW (Gays and Lesbians of West) Conference will be held July 10-13 in Seattle, Washington. Host: Northwest Rainbow Alliance of Deaf (NWRAD). Theme: "Growing Together Toward Equality." For Deaf gays, lesbians, and bisexuals. Registration deadline is July 7. Fees increase after April 1, so early registration is encouraged. Deaf GLOW welcomes anyone who wishes to display a NAMES Project quilt panel that represents beloved members or friends of the Deaf Gay/Lesbian community who have died of AIDS. Businesses are also encouraged to place an ad in the conference program book. The deadline for reserving a place for a quilt-panel or for placing an ad is May 1. Contact: NWRAD/1996 Deaf GLOW, c/o **Karen Atwood**, 15405 Des Moines Memorial Drive #B303, Seattle, WA 98148-2576. ☎(206) 241-8404 (TTY); ❒(206) 431-9660 (FAX); ❖Kmatwood@aol.com (E-mail). Large print available upon request.

➨ NTD's Second National and WorldWide Deaf Theatre Conference is slated for July 10-20. Location TBA. Contact **Frank L. Dattolo**, Director, National and WorldWide Deaf Theatre Conference, P.O.B. 659, Chester, CT 06412; ☎(203) 526-4975 (TTY); ☎(203) 526-4971 (Voice); ❒(203) 526-0066 (FAX); ❖DEAFTC@AOL.COM (Internet address)

➨ The Program on Education and Training at the East-West Center in Honolulu is offering a workshop for college and university faculty from July 24-August 2, focusing on intercultural and international topics. Contact Dr. **Richard Brislin**, East-West Center, Program on Education and Training, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96848; ☎(808) 944-7644; ❒(808) 944-7070 (FAX); ❖BrislinR@EWC.Bitnet (E-mail). For information on intercultural sign-language interpretation and interaction courses, contact **Jan Fried**, Program Coordinator, American Sign Language/Interpreter Education Program, Office of Community Services, 4303 Diamond

Head Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816. ☎(808) 734-9154 (TTY/Voice); ❒(808) 734-9447 (FAX).

➨ The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH) will host the first *Deafestival* on August 3, 1996 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., in Danville. Contact: Dr. **Bobbie Beth Scoggins**, Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, 632 Versailles Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601; ☎(502) 573-2604 (TTY) or ☎(800) 372-2907 (TTY/Voice—in state); ❒(502) 573-3594 (FAX); ❖bscoggins.kcdhh@MSMAIL.STATE.KY.US (E-mail).

➨ The Greater Pittsburgh Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf is hosting the 1996 Region I Conference at the Station Square Sheraton from November 22 to 24. Theme: *Creating Our Future: Working Together in the 21st Century*. Contact **Brian Cerney**, Region I Conference Chair, 830 Pearce Mill Road, Wexford, PA 15090. ☎(412) 933-3281 (TTY/Voice) ❒(412) 369-3624 (FAX); ❖BCerney@CCAC.Edu (E-mail).

TTY HOTLINE GETS A BOOST

Deaf Services Bureau (Miami) recently received a grant to expand its Hotline service. The TTY Hotline, the only one of its kind in Florida, is now accessible in South Florida through a toll-free number: ☎1-800-490-7730.

The Hotline was originated in 1994 to respond to deaf and hard-of-hearing callers, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It provides information, referral, TTY counseling, emergency weather information, and crisis-intervention services.

RESTING EASIER

Seven more deaf families will soon be able to sleep a little easier, thanks to a generous donation from the Kiwanis Club of Frederick, Maryland. The $700 donation will pay for seven new UL-approved visual smoke detectors.

The Visual Smoke Detector Loan Program is part of Deaf Access Services' Public Safety Initiative, a plan developed to ensure accessibility to emergency services for deaf or hard-of-hearing County residents. The loan program is the first of its kind in the State of Maryland.

Peter C. Myers, Executive Director, says, "Deaf Access Services, Inc., is aware of well over 200 households in which a deaf or hard-of-hearing person lives. However, this number does not include households with people who may have lost their hearing later in life or who do not necessarily identify themselves as deaf or hard-of-hearing. Hopefully, publicity generated from this effort will reach all people in need and also create an interest in the community to help meet the anticipated need."

Coupled with the need for detectors is the tremendous cost for each. Underwriters' Laboratories (UL)-approved visual smoke detectors average $150 each—15 times the cost of a standard detector. Says Myers, "Other visual detectors are available on the market at a lower price, but they are not necessarily UL-approved. I would certainly want the assurance of knowing that the detector with which I am trusting my family's life has been tested and has met a quality standard." (Through a special arrangement with the Maryland State Firemen's Association, DAS is able to purchase detectors for the loan program at nearly 40% off the retail price.)

To date, the Visual Smoke Detector Loan Program has been funded completely through private contributions. For more information about how you can participate in or contribute to the program, contact the DAS Office at ☎(301) 696-1550.

JUST WHAT THE PATIENT ORDERED

On February 1, Friendly Hills HealthCare Network recently became the first integrated-delivery system in California to contract with Special Task Interpreters for the Deaf (STID). Interpreters are now available for medical-office visits at 14 sites throughout Orange County. In addition, Friendly Hills Regional Medical Center in La Habra offers interpreters for 24-hour emergency services, surgery, childbirth classes, labor, and delivery. Deaf and hard-of-hearing patients who need to stay in the hospital will be provided with a TTY, amplified telephones, and captioned television. All interpreter services and equipment are provided free of charge to all deaf and hard-of-hearing members of this popular medical group.

STID specializes in health-care interpreting and provides the most comprehensive equal-access service available to the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community. The most unique aspect of the program is that patients are provided with the same interpreter for all appointments and medical procedures. Most patients prefer this continuity because it increases confidentiality.

In addition to offering interpreters for health care, Friendly Hills HealthCare Network provides interpreters for all special health-education classes.

For more information, call ☎1-800-STIDVIP (784-3847)—TTY/Voice/CRS.

"OUTSTANDING SERVICES": ADARA'S 1995 HONORS

The Greater Kansas City chapter of American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association (ADARA) presented its 1995 awards on February 10. The K.C. ADARA is one of the largest professional organizations comprised of both hearing and deaf persons and providing services in many fields for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community. The awards, given annually since 1987, recognize corporations and individuals who provide outstanding services to deaf and hard-of-hearing people throughout the Kansas City area.

The 1995 Community Service Award was given to the University of Kansas Medical Center of Kansas City, Kansas.

From left: Sandy Beach, K.U. Medical Center; Leonard Hall, City of Olathe; David Rosenthal, Southwestern Bell.

KU Medical Center has excelled at providing accessibility to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. The person behind the excellent service is **Sandy Beach**, who has helped KU Medical Center improve its interpreter services tremendously. Unlike the other area medical centers, KU Medical Center offers a Master's program in Deaf Education, a hearing and speech clinic, a program for educational interpreters, and several other programs of interest to deaf and hard-of-hearing.

The 1995 Outstanding Service Award was presented to **David Rosenthal** in honor of his contributions in the field of deafness. Rosenthal moved to Kansas in the early 1980s and has had a big impact on many different programs that deaf and hard-of-hearing people are now using. Rosenthal became Executive Director of the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH) about 10 years ago.

Among his major accomplishments at KCDHH we getting the state to establish the Kansas Relay Service 6 years ago. Southwestern Bell won the bid in 1990 to provide the relay services and was so impressed with Rosenthal's services with KCDHH that it hired him as the key contact person to work with the relay services and the deaf community.

Last year, a survey among the deaf and hard-of-hearing community indicated that 97 percent of the users were happy with the relay service provided by Southwestern Bell, despite the "heavy traffic"—it handles thousands of relay calls every moth. Rosenthal chaired the 1995 national ADARA convention, which many attendees reported was its best-run so far.

The 1995 Outstanding Leadership Award went to **Leonard Hall** of Olathe, who has demonstrated leadership abilities in enhancing the lives of deaf and hard-of-hearing persons. He is only the second person to receive this award over the last 10 years. (**Ken Milner** won the first award in 1992.)

Hall was one of the co-founders and past president of the American Deaf Volleyball Association. He's also co-founder and current president of the Legal Network for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, which has over 250 attorney members from across the country. Over the past 15 years, he's served as an officer of the Olathe Club of the Deaf, KC-SHHH Chapter, Midwest Athletic Association of the Deaf, and several other local deaf organizations.

Among Hall's biggest service to the Deaf community is his weekly column on "Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Community News" for the **Olathe Daily News**. He is the only known deaf columnist to write weekly for a local newspaper, and has written more than 150 articles. Many of these provide interesting stories and discuss issues confronting the local Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, which numbers some 75,000.

MANY *NACHES*: FIVE HONORED BY NCJD

Five outstanding Deaf Jews have been elected to the National Congress of Jewish Deaf Hall of Fame in the categories of religion, general leadership, professional, and sports. They will be formally inducted at the 21st NCJD Convention in Chicago July 28-August 3. This is the Hall of Fame's sixth biennial campaign since it was launched in 1986; making a total of 50 honorees. It's chaired by Alexander Fleischman, who is being honored this year by Gallaudet University. (See above.)

RELIGION

Sally (Sylvia) Auerbach (New York City) has been a household name in the Metro New York area for over 60 years. She's a former vice-president and president of the Hebrew Association of the Deaf (HAD), co-chairlady of its gigantic anniversary celebrations, chairlady of Sisterhood luncheons and holiday celebrations, and delegate to NCJD. For the Fanwood Alumni Association, she served as secretary and president, and volunteered as archivist for collecting and organizing Fanwood's history. She's received 16 award plaques for outstanding services and unselfish devotion to the Deaf community, and she's still at it.

GENERAL LEADERSHIP

Isadore Zisman (Washington, D.C.) quietly established his career of leadership. For years, he served as secretary and columnist for DC Frat. Without having attended Gallaudet, he once functioned as secretary of the Washington Chapter of GCAA. His services at Washington Society of Jewish Deaf and **Dee Cee Eyes**, the DC Club of the Deaf newsletter, have been much praised. At the 1995 South Carolina Conference, he received the Anna Plapinger Award and S.C. Volunteer of the Year Award. He's a longtime volunteer at Gallaudet's Information Center.

PROFESSIONAL

Dr. Martin L. A. Sternberg (New York) published the monumental **American Sign Language: A Comprehensive Dictionary** in 1981 after 19 years of painstaking labor. The **Dictionary** has gone through several printings; copies have

been sold throughout the world. The new CD-ROM version provides a new dimension to ASL learning and reference. Sternberg taught briefly at Gallaudet and NYU, and organized and conducted the nation's first interpreter-training program. He also tutored some noted Broadway performers in sign language and has himself performed in several ASL plays.

SPORTS

Norman Finkelstein (New York and Florida) has been well known in the EAAD/AAAD arena for 45 years as a basketball coach and president of eight social/athletic clubs. He chartered the 1957 AAAD Tourney, was AAAD vice-president for one term, and was elected to EAAD and AAAD Halls of Fame. At its 1980 Convention, which he chaired, NCJD bestowed on him its Award of Merit. He has completed three terms as president of BCAD and will chair its 25th-anniversary convention Naples, Florida, in 1997.

Harry M. Jacobs (Oakland, California) is one of the pioneers in the founding of AAAD and NWAAD, and has provided admirable leadership in the Northwest region. He served as vice-president in 1950 and was elected AAAD President in 1963. He chaired two national basketball tourneys in Oakland. Once, while serving as assistant coach, he won "Coach of the Tourney" honors. For many years, he was tour guide for Herbtours.

naches (Yiddish, pronounced ***na-khas***): experiencing pleasure at achieving honors; the joy shared by family and friends.

CONNECTING THE CITIES

The trickle that started last December in Columbus, Ohio, is starting to look like a whirlwind. At Columbus' An Open Book, **Raymond Luczak** gave a sneak preview of his new book **St. Michael's Fall**, recently published by Deaf Life Press.* It's an autobiographical account—in poems—of growing up oral-deaf, mainstreamed, and Catholic—and discovering the forbidden fruits of ASL—in a small-town Ironwood, Michigan, during the 1970s.* Now that he's already begun his year-long book tour in Miami (March 18 at Borders Book Shop, 9205 South Dixie Highway), tentative reading and autographing dates are being lined up from May to October. As always, all readings will be interpreted, so *everyone* can enjoy them!

➧ In Minneapolis, Luczak is scheduled to give a reading at Borders Book Shop at Calhoun Square, 3001 Hennepin Avenue South, on Thursday, May 2, 7:30 p.m. Call ☎(612) 825-0336 (Voice) for more information.

➧ On Sunday, May 5, the Pine Tree Gallery will host a very special homecoming reading in Ironwood, Michigan, the very town where the story of **St. Michael's Fall** took place. A few local Deaf actors who were involved with Theater North's production of ***Children Of A Lesser God*** have been asked to perform some ASL translations of Luczak's poems. We hope that Deaf people front all over Michigan's Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin will be able to gather in one place to celebrate! For the specifics, call either **Phil** or **Kaite** at the Pine Tree Gallery at ☎(906) 932-5210 (Voice).

➧ In New York City, Barnes & Noble will host Luczak's first New York appearance to promote **St. Michael's Fall** at 33 East 17th Street (the north side of Union Square) on Thursday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call ☎(212) 253-0810 (Voice).

➧ On the second weekend of May, Luczak is expected to visit Chicago and give a reading at a local bookstore (not yet confirmed). For the latest on this event, contact **Trudy Suggs** at ☎(708) 515-0186 (TTY), ❒(708) 515-0399 (FAX), or better yet, ❖TrudySuggs@aol.com (E-mail).

➧ Luczak will return to Boston to give a reading at the Boston Public Library, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, May 19, from 3 -5 p.m. Be on the lookout for local announcements from Boston Public Library and elsewhere in the area to make sure.

➧ Tentative reading dates in the fall are being set for San Francisco, Seattle, Los Angeles, Cleveland, Rochester, New York; Washington D.C.; Philadelphia, and one more date in New York City. Definite reading dates will be announced later this summer here in **DEAF LIFE Plus** and elsewhere.

Note: Because not all reading dates could be confirmed at press time, please call ahead or double-check the local listings. Or better yet, contact Luczak directly at ☎(212) 388-0387 (TTY), ❒(212) 505-3252 (FAX), or ❖RayLuczak@aol.com (E-mail). To get the advance word on these readings, put yourself on Luczak's E-mail list. Or fax your address to the above number or send it to Luczak at P.O. Box 110, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276-0110.

* **St. Michael's Fall** was published recently by Deaf Life Press. Ordering information can be found on the back cover of this issue.

ADVICE TO THE PLAYWRIGHTS

The New York Deaf Theatre has again extended its Sam Edwards Deaf Playwrights Competition to January 31, 1997. It is hoped that this additional bloc of time will be of help to the deaf playwrights who received 1995 guidelines and to the many others who hope to submit an entry.

Last year's 1995 guidelines and application forms will not be accepted for this extension. While January 1997 may seem far away, it is never too soon to send for the new 1996 guidelines and application forms. An independent panel of judges from the professional theatre community will evaluate and offer constructive criticism for all entries. The winner gets a cash award and possible staged reading and/or production.

In February, ***A Laying of Hands***, the 1992 Competition's

winning one-act play by **Michele Maureen Verhoosky**, was produced off-off Broadway by the Onyx Theatre Company. And Verhoosky's ***I See the Moon***, the 1994 winning full-length play, was given a staged reading by the National Theatre of the Deaf at its Deaf Theatre Conference last August, and will premier at NYDT on May 28, with 20 performances scheduled. ***I See the Moon*** will be directed by **Betsy Shevey**, who worked with NYDT on its 1994 adaptation of ***The Swan***.

25 Cents by **Aaron B. Weir**, another Competition winner, was given a full NYDT production in 1993.

To request an application, guidelines, or more information, write to: 1996 Sam Edwards Deaf Playwrights Competition, New York Deaf Theatre, 305 Seventh Avenue, 11 Floor, New York, NY 10001-6008. ☎(212) 924-9535 (TTY); ☎(212) 924-9491 (Voice); ☎(908) 226-9420 (FAX).

MISSED THE TRAIN—CATCH THE FILM

Edward Marquez and Susan Jackson in *Eudora Welty's "The Key"*

On April 14, NYDT is hosting a benefit world-premiere screening of ***Eudora Welty's "The Key."*** An adaptation of Welty's classic short story, "The Key," it was shot on location in southern Louisiana with a Deaf/hearing cast and crew. And it's a true cinematic rarity—it has no voices on the soundtrack. All dialogue is in ASL, with English subtitles.

The film will premiere at the Lighthouse Conference Center, 111 East 59th Street (between Park and Lexington) at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, April 14, 1996. Following the screening will be a filmmaker panel discussion featuring Director and co-writer **Francis James**, Producer **Jason Orans**, ASL Translator **Connie Tullos**, and co-stars **Susan Jackson** and **Edward Marquez**. Topics expected to be covered include the emergence of ASL/Deaf cinema, humorous anecdotes from a Deaf/hearing film set, and the art of producing an independent American film with grant funding.

The Key tells the story of a Deaf couple who journey from their rural home to a faraway train station only to miss their train. At the station, they find a key deliberately tossed by a mysterious young stranger, a con artist. The key becomes a symbol of their lifelong dream of visiting Niagara Falls and rekindling their love.

Major funding for ***"The Key"*** was provided by The National Endowment for the Arts, The Louisiana Division of the Arts, The Southeast Media Fellowship Program, the Louisiana Association of the Deaf, and the Louisiana Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities.

For ticket information, call **Judy Lauterstein**, Benefit Chair, at ☎(212) 924-9535 (TTY) or ☎(212) 924-9491 (Voice). Proceeds benefit NYTD's artistic and cultural programs.

PRIME-TIME EXPOSURE

Jennifer (Red Jenn) Delora and **Alan "Spo" Schwartz** were hired to play a Deaf brother and sister on ***High Incident***. **Their** episode is called 'Women and Children First' (aired on ABC April 1 at 9 p.m.), and their scene is part of the "teaser" which appears at the very beginning before the episode starts

The producer is Ralph Winter with Steven Spielberg's Dreamworks Company.

Both actors bring a lot of experience to this wonderful opportunity. Delora has starred or co-starred in over 16 feature films, a television series, numerous commercials, and over 30 stage productions in New York and regionally. She is also the host of ***Deaf Perspectives*** talk show and directs Bridges Sign Choir under L.A. Bridges Theatre Company of the Deaf in Los Angeles, which she founded. She also starred in ***Everything in the Garden*** with LABTCD and was an original member of Light Flashes comedy-improvisation group. Technically, she's hard-of-hearing with a degenerative hearing loss, but lives her life culturally-Deaf. Her grandfather, uncle, and paternal aunt were both born hard-of-hearing, becoming deaf in their 30s (but were oral).

Spo Schwartz is third-generation Deaf. He studied at NTD summer school for 5 years and has professional training from top Deaf teachers such as **Bernard Bragg**, **Don Bangs**, and **Ed Waterstreet**. He recently co-starred in ***Medea*** at Deaf West Theatre with **Linda Bove**. Like Delora, he was a member of Light Flashes. He has performed in over 13 stage productions including working with the NTD, Little Theatre of the Deaf, Deaf West Theatre, and Center on Deafness in Chicago. ***High Incident*** is his first break into television and film. He recently signed a contract with the Craig Agency in Los Angeles, a well-known agent handling top Deaf and hard-of-hearing talent (as well as hearing actors) for professional acting work.

SPO stands for "Sign Performance Only," by the way. He is establishing his own company, "Sign Performance Outreach Theatre" (SPOT), which will work with children and adults—coming soon!

High Incident is a new police drama, set in real-life

Jennifer Delora

situations and filmed more like a documentary than a typical "glossy" TV show. Tryouts for "Women and Children First" called about 20 Deaf and hard-of-hearing performers who auditioned all day. Delora and Schwartz were hired the next day and filmed two days later. They arrived on the set at 4:30 p.m., but weren't not called to the set until around 10:30! Makeup and hair were natural and the directors liked both actors' "natural" looks. **Bill Pugin**, a professional actor himself and well-known film and TV interpreter—he appeared in ***Reasonable Doubts***—was hired to work with the actors and crew.*

Schwartz and Delora got star treatment—their own trailers with bathrooms, showers . . . everything! Her scenes were filmed first, because the scene with both brother and sister were inside a house and exteriors were shot in a small neighborhood in Los Angeles. After finally finishing the outside shots, they had to "wrap" (finish shooting) because it was 2:30 a.m. (! ! ! ! !) They returned to the set and filmed inside the studio at the end of February.

Finally, more Deaf and hard-of-hearing talent hits the mainstream. For more information on hiring or contacting either of these actors, contact **Sid Craig** at Craig Agency: ☎(213) 655-0236 (TTY/Voice). Delora can also be contacted at Inclusive Consulting, ☎❐(213) 876-0392 (TTY/FAX).

* He's the brother of Mary Anne Pugin of GUAA.

THE BEST FRIEND A SLUGGER COULD HAVE

Steve Sandy says he won't stop
until his hero's in the Hall of Fame

by **Bob Hunter**
Sports Columnist, **The Columbus Dispatch***

Dummy Hoy probably never had a friend like Steven Sandy.

Sitting behind a mountain of scrapbooks, photo albums, and newspaper clippings about the deaf 19th-century baseball star, Sandy is determined to get Hoy elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Bill Clinton or Bob Dole would be lucky to have a campaign director with this much devotion.

"I know his batting average won't match many of the other Hall of Famers," Sandy said. "But he was well-liked and easy to get along with. Umpires respected him. He would do anything for you. He was very humble. He was a role model. He still is."

Hoy and Sandy have a lot in common. Both were born deaf.† Both were born with boundless energy and persistence that set them apart from most of us. Neither allowed their deafness to become a handicap.

TAKING UP THE CAUSE

Sandy never met Hoy—he was born a month before Hoy died in 1961—but he knows him better than the men who played baseball with him. When you look at all of the material he has gathered—the family photos, glowing testimonials. and personal anecdotes—it's amazing to think that before 1989 their paths had never crossed.

"The Ohio Association for the Deaf was trying to get Dummy Hoy into the Hall of Fame in 1989 when I got involved," Sandy said. "I had been with them since '85 and come up in the ranks to be statewide president. When I found out they were going to drop their effort to get him in the Hall of Fame because they didn't have the resources, I started reading up on it and found it intending. I said, 'OK, I'll take it.' In the next election, I decided not to run again so I would have time to do this."

"This" is no small task. From his West Side home, Sandy has corresponded with Hoy's relatives, chronicled his life in more than 60 photographs, and traveled to St. Louis, one of the Houckstown, Ohio, native's major-league stops, to sort through old newspaper files to prove Hoy invented the hand signals that umpires and coaches use in baseball today. Sandy helped found the Hoy Committee, a group of devotees currently chaired by Philadelphia resident Randy Fisher, whose purpose is to see that Hoy is elected to the Hall of Fame.

Under the unusual circumstances, Hoy's solid 14-year major-league career might seem like qualification enough for inclusion, but the Hoy Committee is determined to prove he did more than overcome his handicap. For that reason, Sandy has collected a number of clippings with references to Hoy and his hand signals from the 1890s, which seem to contradict the Hall's contention that Hall of Fame umpire Bill Klem invented hand signals in 1905.

"I don't want to belittle Klem," Sandy said. "I like him. In 1905, he said all games must be umpired by hand signals—fine. But Dummy Hoy *invented* the hand signals. I found it."

A clipping from the **St. Louis Globe-Democrat**, dated 1891, has a drawing of a coach giving Hoy his signals, left hand for ball and right hand for strike, at his direction. Hoy also needed signals to know whether he was out or safe on a play.

"Ever heard of a deaf placer named Richard Sipek?" Sandy asked. 'He played with the Reds in 1945 when all of the regular players had gone to war. Dummy Hoy came to a game and met him and he told him, 'I was the one who invented hand signals.' Sipek told me that, and he's still living in Chicago if anyone wants to check."

A PLAYER TO REMEMBER

Hoy had a respectable .288 lifetime batting average, 2,054 hits, and 597 stolen bases—he stole a league-high 82 as a rookie with Washington in 1888—but is remembered in baseball more for the stories about him than his numbers.

After a ball he hit ticked off a fielder's glove and lodged in his shirt pocket, the umpire called him out—shirt pockets were banned in the major leagues. In a game in which an opposing payer hit a deep drive in a park that didn't have an outfield fence, Hoy leaped on a parked horse in order to make a game-saving catch. He eventually became so popular that amateur baseball teams called themselves the "Hoys" in his honor.

"He's a genuine role model, particularly for the deaf," Sandy said. "At the Olio School for the Deaf, where he went from 1872 to 1879, they still look up to him." Maybe that's why Sandy, an accounting clerk for the U.S. government's Defense Financial Accounting Service, says he won't stop until Hoy has a plaque in Cooperstown.

"Hoy wrote a letter and said there were only two things he wanted—to live to be 100 and to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame," Sandy said. "He lived to be 99-1/2 years old."

The second part is up to us.

*This column by Bob Hunter, titled "Man says he won't stop until deaf hero's in Hall," originally appeared in the February 3, 1996 issue of **The Columbus Dispatch**, and is reprinted with permission. Copyright, © 1996, **The Columbus Dispatch**.

†Erroneous statement. Hoy was actually early-deafened (at age 2 or 3) by "brain fever," most likely spinal meningitis, one of the most common causes of childhood deafness.—Editors

THE EAST BAY LOSES A BOOSTER

David Hecht died on January 29 in his sleep, in his Manteca, California home, of coronary-artery disease. He was 76.

He has born on December 11, 1919, in Sapanta, Romania, near the Transylvanian Alps (Southern Carpathians), famed in folklore. His early education was at the Budapest School for the Deaf. There he excelled in soccer and was chosen as a member of the national soccer team.

He was 14 when he emigrated to the States, on shipboard, joining his family who had arrived several years earlier. He continued his education at NYSD (Fanwood), which was a military school at that time. He was promoted to the rank of cadet captain, and was trained in the vocational department as a baker. After graduating, he worked as an eclair baker in New York for more than a decade and was a member of the Bakery and Confectioners Union.

Tiring of the baking trade, Hecht worked as a Linotypist in several California cities. Ultimately, he ended up at the **San Francisco Chronicle**, where he worked for 27 years. He was a member of the International Typographical Union, retiring at age 65.

Sports was always his favorite avocation, and he was active with soccer and bowling teams, especially those affiliated with the East Bay Club of the Deaf (EBCD) in Oakland. He was President of the EBCD was also coached the club basketball team, which won several regional and national championships. Lest we forget, also a champion in the chess-tourney world.

Hecht was also a member of the American Athletic Association of the Deaf, the Union League in New York, Los Angeles Club of the Deaf, and Temple Beth Solomon of the Deaf.

He is survived by his wife, **Joanne Hecht** of Manteca, son **Donald Hecht** of New Jersey, stepchildren **Timothy** and **Sherry Hickerson**, two grandchildren, and four sisters.

Funeral services were held privately in Manteca. Remembrances may be made to: Deaf Community Center, 1550 San Leandro Blvd. San Leandro, CA 94577-4442; Temple Beth Solomon of the Deaf, 13580 Osborne St., Arleta, CA 91331; or NorCal Center on Deafness, 5651 North Pershing Ave., Stockton, CA 95207.

BELIEVE IN MAGIC

Abracadabra, presto change-o, the World's Image Center becomes the center of magic when the 6th World Deaf Magicians Festival takes place April 14-22 at NTID. The biannual event, presented by the Society of World Deaf Magicians, brings together amateur and professional deaf magicians from around the world to exchange ideas, share experiences, compete in a variety of performance contests, and have fun.

Some 50 magicians representing 19 countries—from Canada to Japan—will perform micro-magic (close-up magic), comedy magic, and stage magic during the festival. Stage and comedy-magic performances, which are open to the public, begin at 7 and 9 p.m. April 17, 18, and 19 in the Robert F. Panara Theatre, located in the LBJ Building.

Tickets for the evening and matinee performances are available at the LBJ Building's Box Office, open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays For more information, call ☎(716) 475-6254 (TTY/Voice). All performances are accessible to deaf and hearing audience members.

On Wednesday, April 17, the magicians will host a special magic day for deaf children from the Rochester area. At 10 a.m., approximately 300 children will gather in the Panara Theatre for a magic show. Following the show, the magicians will work with groups of 8-10 students to demonstrate and teach simple magic tricks.

A Magical Evening Gala Show and Dance will take place 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 20, at the Harro East Club, 400

Andrews Street. This extravaganza which includes performances by festival magicians, award presentations, and prize giveaways. For ticket information, contact **Paula Wollenhaupt**, Gala Show Chair, LBJ-2277, NTID, 52 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623-5604; ☎(716) 475-6334 (TTY) or ☎(716) 475-6500 (FAX). Ticket orders are accepted until April 10.

The 6th World Deaf Magicians Festival is hosted by NTID and its Department of Performing Arts and co-sponsored by the Rochester Area International Brotherhood of Magicians (Ring #4), the Society of American Magicians (Assembly #47), and the Greater Rochester Recreation Association of the Deaf.

JAPANESE INGENUITY, NEW YORK ENTHUSIASM

On March 9, a unique new assistive-listening system designed to enhance enjoyment of live music performances for persons with moderate to severe hearing loss was used for the first time in the United States in conjunction with a Carnegie Hall performance by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Developed by Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp., and initially introduced in 1987, the system, called "Livephone Tokimeki," has been used by about 1,700 people in 90 concerts held throughout Japan. The Carnegie Hall concert was the venue for the inaugural trial of the latest generation of the system, which incorporates digital-compression and graphic-equalization technologies as well as other improvements. A novel feature of the system is that it can be fine-tuned according to individual user's hearing-loss profile.

Twenty-four persons with varying degrees of hearing loss took part in the trial. The participants were selected by the League for the Hard of Hearing. The concert and trial were sponsored by International Business Communications Council, a nonprofit organization representing Japanese industrial associations in the automobile and electronics sectors.

WHEN THE MUSIC FADES

By age 65, one out of three people has a hearing loss—this is a staggering fact. Hearing loss, already a serious problem among older Americans, will increase significantly as the older segment of the population continues to grow. It follows arthritis and hypertensive disease as the third most-prevalent chronic condition among the non-institutionalized elderly population. Approximately 30% of those currently over age 65 have some degree of hearing deterioration associated with aging (presbycusis).

Says **Richard Miyamoto**, MD, Chairman of the Hearing & Equilibrium Committee of the American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS): "Hearing loss is a real hazard of advancing age. But the process begins surprisingly early, usually in the 30s or 40s." During this earlier period, virtually everyone experiences some gradual loss of sensitivity to high-pitched sound. By age 50 or 60, the loss extends to lower frequencies and may become noticeable and, in many cases, disruptive to normal daily living.

Presbycusis, which literally means "old hearing," has multiple contributing factors. Some people born with a genetic predisposition develop hearing loss at an accelerated rate with age. Others develop hearing loss due to a decrease in blood circulation to the ear caused by heart disease, high blood pressure, or other circulatory problems. Prolonged noise exposure is implicated as a factor in the development of hearing loss with aging. Physicians have noted that certain African populations living in relatively quiet environments are able to maintain their hearing throughout old age. The combined effect of medications taken by the elderly can also contribute to hearing loss. For example, a daily dose of over 8 aspirin tablets per day (common treatment for arthritis) can cause reversible but significant decrease in hearing.

Presbycusis is progressive in nature. For men ages 65-74, approximately 30% experience some degree of hearing loss. At age 75 and over, the figure jumps to 40%. While the hearing-loss percentage for women is 18% in the 64-74 age group, the hearing loss doubles for those over 75, affecting 36%. As the number of people over 75 years increases (projected at 6.2% of the population in the year 2000), presbycusis hearing loss becomes a major medical and social problem.

The best way for older people to cope with presbycusis is to establish a hearing-conservation-and-preservation program. The AAO-HNS recommends the following tips as part of a regular health regimen:

✚ Have regular ear examinations and hearing tests along with regular physical examinations. These are important because presbycusis occurs gradually, thereby making it difficult to detect.

✚ If you experience any change in your hearing, or any symptoms such as ringing in the ears or dizziness, see an otolaryngologist (ear, nose, and throat specialist) immediately.

✚ Avoid exposure to excessively loud or prolonged noise. If you must be exposed to loud noise, wear ear protectors (earplugs and muffs.) These are available in most drug and sporting-goods stores.

✚ Be aware of and avoid medications which may affect circulation. These include stimulants such as nicotine or caffeine.

✚ If you have hearing loss, enroll in lipreading classes. This training to watch people's lips and face as they speak gives extra clues for understanding speech. Also, seek guidance from your otolaryngologist (ear, nose, and throat specialist) regarding assistive-hearing devices—phone amplification, infrared devices, etc.

✚ Learn basic manual communication in addition to speechreading: fingerspelling and "survival signs." Attend

classes or get a series of videotapes. Teach your spouse, family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors. This will also discourage them from shouting or screaming in frustration—which is bad for anyone's hearing.*

Says Dr. Miyamoto: "By following these common-sense guidelines to healthful living, older Americans may conserve the hearing ability they still have."

Although no cure for presbycusis exists, the AAO-HNS suggests that affected persons utilize available technology to maximize their remaining hearing ability. It is most important that the elderly maintain their ability to communicate with family and friends, and not become shut off from their social world. There are a variety of assistive devices available that can make life more comfortable for those who have a hearing problem.

* This wasn't included in the press release, of course, but we'd like to encourage anyone experiencing hearing loss to learn fingerspelling and basic sign language. It'll do you good. How? You can teach others the basics, and in an emergency situation, they'll be able to communicate with you. Even in a non-emergency situation, a basic knowledge of fingerspelling and sign can save time, worry, and stress. It's never too late to learn.—Editors

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BEAT THE SQUISHIES!

What you can do to prevent "Swimmer's Ear"

Did you know that swimming is not the only cause of swimmer's ear? Any activity that allows water or moisture to enter the ear (showering, washing your hair frequently, using a Sauna, and being in warm, humid climates) can cause this ear problem.

When water gets into the ear, it may bring in bacterial or fungal particles. Usually the water runs back out, the ear dries out, and the bacteria and fungi don't cause any problems. But sometimes water remains trapped in the ear canal and causes the skin to get soggy. Then the bacteria and fungi grow, flourish, and can infect the outer ear.

If you experience any of the following symptoms, you need to see a doctor:

✚ The ear feels blocked and may itch.
✚ The ear canal becomes swollen, sometimes swelling shut.
✚ The ear starts draining a runny, milky liquid.
✚ The ear becomes very painful and very tender to touch, especially on
the cartilage in front of the ear canal.

Ear drops can be used by most people to protect or dry out the ear. Says Dr. Miyamoto: "Before using any ear drops, consult your physician. If you have an infection, a perforated eardrum, or other ear injury or surgery, you may not be able to use ear drops. You should always talk to your doctor before putting anything into your ear."

If it is safe for you to use ear drops and your problem recurs, your doctor may suggest using oily (or lanolin) ear drops in your ears before contact with water/moisture to protect them from the effects.

You can make up your own drops to use after swimming (water/moisture contact). One formula is a 50/50 mix of rubbing alcohol and vinegar. As the alcohol evaporates, it absorbs the water and may even kill the bacteria and fungi. A weak acid environment discourages the growth of bacteria and fungi.

"Remember, a dry ear is less likely to become infected. To dry your ear, use the drops discussed above (if you have a perforated eardrum, dry the ear with a hair dryer). *Never* use cotton swabs such as Q-tips; they can pack material deeper in the ear canal and make the problem worse."

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Freebies: AAO-HNS offers 24 informative free leaflets, including "Swimmer's Ear." Send a self-addressed, stamped, business-sized (#10) envelope to: [the title of your choice], AAO-HNS, 1 Prince St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

✉ 5-Minute Hearing Test
✉ Allergies & Hay Fever
✉ Altitude and Airplane Travel
✉ Antihistamines, Decongestants, and Cold Remedies
✉ Assistive Communication Devices
✉ Cochlear Implants
✉ Dizziness & Motion Sickness
✉ Doctor, What Causes the Ringing in My Ears?
✉ Earwax
✉ Head and Neck Cancer
✉ Hoarseness
✉ Ménière's Disease
✉ Noise, Ears and Hearing Protection
✉ Postnasal Drip
✉ Salivary Glands: What's Normal, What's Abnormal?
✉ Sinus: Pain Drainage & Infection
✉ Smell & Taste Disorders
✉ Snoring: Not Funny, Not Hopeless
✉ Sore Throats: Causes & Cures
✉ Swallowing Disorders: Common Problems & Treatments
✉ Travel Tips for Hearing-Impaired People
✉ You and Your Stuffy Nose
✉ Your Thyroid Gland
✉ Why Do We Fall?

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HONORING A CONGRESSMAN

Representative **John Edward Porter** of Illinois recently received an AAO-HNS award for "superb legislative leadership for medical research."

Robert J. Ruben, MD, Professor of Pediatrics at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of the Yeshiva University and Montefiore Medical Center in New York City, presented the

award.* He said, "Mr. Porter, your superb legislative leadership allows the vital research work on diseases of the ear, nose, throat, voice, taste, balance, and human communication to go forward uninterrupted. However, not only research in our own field will go forward, but also research in the fields of cancer, heart disease, and lung disease—indeed in all health areas of profound interest to the American people, and people worldwide."

In his first year as chairman of the Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education and Other Related Agencies, U.S. House of Representatives, Porter succeeded in extricating° medical-research funding from the overall budget battle, thus assuring continuation of medical research at medical centers and universities throughout the U.S.

*Dr. Ruben was quoted in **Andrew Solomon's** "Deaf is Beautiful" (**New York Times Magazine**, August 28, 1994), reprinted in our December 1994 and January 1995 issues.

extricating: pulling out; drawing out.

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NEW BLOOD

George H. Roman, MPA, is the new Director of Practice Management of AAO-HNS. For the past 7 years, Roman has been involved in the managed-care environment, building knowledge of primary care, capitation° arrangements, and network development.

He began his health-care career in 1974 as the administrative officer of the surgery department at Georgetown University Medical Center. In 1979, he earned a Master's degree in Public Administration from the American University in Washington, D.C. His experience grew with subsequent positions as Administrative Manager of Surgical Services at the Washington Hospital Center, Associate Administrator at Lakeside Memorial Hospital in Brockport, New York, Manager of the Department of Medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center, Senior Consultant with MultiHealth Systems in Bethesda, Maryland, Executive Director of Fairfax Family Practice, and Senior Consultant with Medical Alliances in Alexandria, Virginia.

The Department of Practice Management serves as the focal point for business-oriented educational and information programs for AAO-HNS membership. It also addresses socioeconomic concerns and establishes appropriate links with like-minded societies and associations. Roman is excited about participating in the growth and development of the Academy's Practice Management Department.

capitation: the payment of a fixed amount or fee for each client or patient.

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LIP SERVICE

The Center for Community and Professional Services at The Pennsylvania school for the Deaf (PSD) has been offering a 10-week speechreading (lipreading) course that meets on Thursday mornings, 10:00-11:30 a.m. It's taught by **Ginny Craig**, Southeastern Pennsylvania Coordinator of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH)). It's is designed for people currently losing their hearing or for those who have acquired hearing aids but want to improve their speechreading abilities.

For more information on upcoming classes, contact **Gail Bober** at PSD's Center at ☎(215) 951-4718 (TTY/Voice).

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OUTDOOR BEAUTIES

An exhibit featuring more than 40 nature images, with an emphasis on Northern and Central New York, by **Vici Zaremba** and **Steve Diehl** is on display April 8-29 at NTID's Switzer Gallery (LBJ Building).

A majority of the work will consist of 11" x 14" Ilfochrome prints custom-made by the artists from original 35mm Kodachrome transparencies. Zaremba and Diehl, of Antwerp, are graduates of RIT photography programs. Zaremba is a free-lance commercial photographer and environmental consultant. Diehl, an associate professor at RIT, teaches basic photography, nature, and color printing. They have photographed in Panama, Ecuador, Brazil, Newfoundland, Alaska, the Gulf of Mexico, and the West and East coasts of the United States. Their photography articles and nature images have appeared in **Outdoor Photographer**, **Natural History**, **Outdoor Travel and Photography**, **Pentax Life**, **Adirondack Life**, and **Focal Press**. The Nature Conservancy, Eastman Kodak, UNICEF, Argus Communications, and Pentax Corporation have also used Zaremba's and Diehl's images. A large selection of their nature photographs is featured at the New York State's Visitor Interpretive Center at Paul Smiths College in the Adirondacks. They are now illustrating a book to be published by the New York State Tughill Commission. Diehl is also editing work produced by his nature students that will be featured in the 1997 Rochester Gas and Electric calendar.

The exhibit, free and open to the public, is sponsored by NTID. The Switzer Gallery is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call ☎(716) 475-6855 (TTY/Voice).

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CUTTING TO THE CORE

The artists' visions are sometimes violent, sometimes serene. Their artwork reflects conflict, hope, and life experience. In their creations, however, they've made individual decisions and exercised choice, and that is the most important element these artists have gained from independent-living

centers.

Hearts and Flowers, a collection of mixed-media works, was showing through April 2 at the Very Special Arts Gallery at 1300 Connecticut Avenue N.W. in Washington, D.C. The show included naïve, contemporary, and traditional perspectives by artists with disabilities from more than half-a-dozen independent-living centers. Viewers had a glimpse into each artist's life through their interpretive view of hearts and flowers, two universal themes loaded with emotion.

"Real independent living allows people with disabilities to fully contribute to our communities and to create opportunities for ourselves that foster a sense of well-being," said John D. Kemp, president and CEO of VSA. "By showcasing these pieces, this exhibit helps integrate artists with disabilities into the established artistic community, which may never have been exposed to their work before. Such exhibits can also offer economic opportunities and chances for personal expression."

Artist Mary Dunn, who works with the Queens Independent Living Center in New York, knows about such chances. She is passionate about what she has gained from the Queens center and the gallery it operates. She says that she has found a niche at the center's gallery, where she encourages other artists with disabilities in their work and draws inspiration from the creativity and camaraderie of the group. Dunn, who has a mental disability, has had no formal training. Her creations, such as the painting "Enigmatic Heart," which was featured in the show, are instinctive and borne from her imagination—visions in her head, scenes that come to her at night, emotions, experiences, and frustrations.

Many of the 300 independent-living centers in the country offer artists the opportunity to work in studio settings. These artists' visions, stripped of the inhibition that formal art training often imposes, cut to the very core of life. Whether whimsical or serious, this fresh approach, as showcased by the Very Special Arts Gallery, is driving a phenomenal growing interest in visionary art, making it one of the most collectible areas of work on the market. This movement has grown exponentially° over the last decade, with two major museums in Switzerland and Baltimore opening in the past year, and numerous sold-out shows in the United States.

Other centers with artists participating in this show included the Ability Center of Toledo, Ohio; the National Institute for Art and Disabilities in California; Oklahomans for Independent Living; and the Governor's Commission on Disability in New Hampshire.

The Very Special Arts Gallery represents emerging and professional artists with disabilities from around the country. Proceeds from sales benefit these artists and the programs of Very Special Arts. For more information on upcoming shows: ☎(202) 628-0800.

exponentially: doubling, then expanding four times. In other words, a boom.

BLIND HERITAGE

Washington National Cathedral, in cooperation with the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB), is hosting *Inspiration and Innovation: Helen Keller and the American Foundation for the Blind*, an exhibition illustrating the history, capabilities, and achievements of Americans who are blind or visually-impaired. **Helen Keller**, who devoted more than 40 years of service to the AFB, and her teachers/interpreters **Anne Sullivan Macy** and **Polly Thomson**, are interred° at the Cathedral. The exhibit opened March 8 and runs through May 27, and is sponsored nationally by Xerox Corporation.

"*Inspiration and Innovation* exemplifies the history and success of blind and visually-impaired Americans in the twentieth century," said **Carl R. Augusto**, President of AFB. "The exhibition tells the story of the struggle of blind Americans to take their place in society, beginning with Helen Keller, who was AFB's spokesperson for 44 years."

Graphic presentations, video and audio components, and historic photographs from AFB's Helen Keller Archives allow visitors of all ages to explore AFB's technological innovations and trace the organization's public-advocacy efforts. Items belonging to Ms. Keller, including her Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Academy Award for ***Helen Keller in Her Story*** are also on display.

The exhibit is in the Cathedral's Rare Book Library Exhibit Room, which is open to the public free of charge Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday, 1-4 p.m.

At a ceremony on March 7, **Reed E. Hundt**, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, and **Howell T. Heflin**, U.S. Senator from Alabama, received the Helen Keller Outstanding Public Service award for their efforts on behalf of the disability community. Keller Johnson, great-grandniece of Helen Keller, presented the awards.

The Washington installation is supported by Artex International, Baker Linen Co., Fieldcrest/Cannon, Marietta Corporation, Marriott International, Inc., MCI Telecommunications Corporation, Rego Corporation, Uniforms To You, and USAir.

After appearing in Washington, *Inspiration and Innovation* will be seen at the St. Louis Public Library, June 15 to July 23; One Market Plaza, San Francisco, July 29 to September 6; The Science Place, Dallas, September 17 to October 27; O'Hare Airport, Chicago, November; New York City, December 1996 to January 1997; and in Birmingham, Alabama, February 1997.

Background: Celebrating its 75th anniversary, the American Foundation for the Blind is a national, nonprofit organization whose mission is to enable blind or visually-impaired people to achieve equality of access and opportunity to ensure freedom of choice in their lives. AFB is headquartered in New York City and has offices in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. ☎(202) 537-6200.

interred: buried.

WHAT'S NEW AT SACKLER & FREER

ARTISTIC EXCHANGE ROUTE

Crosscurrents in Chinese and Islamic Ceramics opened at the Freer Gallery of Art on March 1 and continues indefinitely. It examines the cross-cultural influences evident in Chinese ceramics and Islamic decorative arts during the 14th and 15th centuries. Nineteen examples of blue-and-white porcelain and green-glazed (celadon) stoneware from China, and earthenware, metalwork, and jade from Turkey, Iran, and Syria illustrate the similarities and differences among the forms, artistic styles, materials, and technologies of China and West Asia during an extended era of vigorous trade and cultural exchange.

Crosscurrents was organized by Louise Cort, curator for ceramics, and Massumeh Farhad, associate curator of Islamic Near Eastern art, both of the Freer Gallery. "One of our goals in this exhibition is to cross the usual barriers between geographic regions and types of media," Cort said. "This is a chance to show two important areas of the gallery's ceramics collection—Chinese blue-and-white porcelain and Islamic earthenware—alongside examples of Islamic metalwork. Presenting this material together offers visual evidence of the interchange at took place between China and West Asia during this period."

The Chinese ceramics shown in this exhibition were acquired for the Freer by John A. Pope (1906-1982), the Gallery's third director, who served from 1962 to 1971. Pope's research on ceramics in the Topkapi Saray Museum, Istanbul, Turkey, and the Ardabil Shrine collection, now in the Iran Bastan Museum in Teheran, was published in 1952 and 1956, and helped establish the chronology for 14th- and 15th-century Chinese blue-and-white wares.

In the 14th century, large quantities of blue-and-white porcelain from Jingdezhen and green-glazed celadon stoneware from Longquan—the outstanding centers for ceramic production in China at the time—reached markets in West Asia. It was China's importation of cobalt ore from Persia (present-day Iran) that made possible the addition of blue pictorial decoration to Jingdezhen porcelain. Chinese potters, in turn, developed blue-and-white ware with forms and patterns to suit Islamic taste, and these treasures, acquired by ruling houses and nobility in Ottoman Turkey, Persia, and elsewhere in West Asia, inspired Chinese-style decoration on earthenware from Iznik and other Islamic ceramic centers. Meanwhile, from Islamic design as it appeared on metalware and other materials, Chinese potters learned a new decorative vocabulary, including the division of the vessel surface into bands and registers filled with disparate° motifs.

Among the examples of artistic exchange on view are two canteens of similar form but executed in different materials some 4,500 miles and 150 years apart. The 13th-century Syrian hammered-and-polished-brass canteen, a masterpiece of the Freer Gallery collection, is chased and inlaid with silver and black organic material. Unique in form and size, this canteen recalls the shape of ceramic pilgrimage flasks. Its decoration combines calligraphy and Islamic decorative motifs, such as intricate geometric designs and fantastic animal scrolls, with elaborate Christian imagery. The decoration suggests that the canteen was produced in Syria and may have been commissioned by a wealthy Christian, perhaps a Crusader, as a special memento of his journey.

For comparison, the exhibition includes a second canteen made in the early 15th century at Jingdezhen. The hybrid decoration on this blue-and-white porcelain canteen combines waves, a common Chinese motif; Chinese floral scrolls that seem to reflect awareness of Islamic arabesque designs; and an 8-pointed star found on many Islamic objects. The curators suggest that this piece may have been made for a Chinese clientele fascinated by Islamic metalware.

disparate: in different styles, not one consistent style.

POETIC VISIONS & PARTS OF A WHOLE

Choice Spirits: Works by Thomas Dewing and Dwight Tryon opened at the Freer Gallery of Art on March 9 and continues through Spring 1997. It features 27 objects—easel paintings, silverpoint drawings, pastels, large decorative paintings, and a pair of screens—by American tonalists Thomas Dewing (1851-1938) and Dwight Tryon (1849-1925).

The collections of gallery founder Charles Lang Freer (1854-1919) of Detroit formed the museum's core. The focus of this exhibition is Freer's collecting habits and aestheticism in turn-of-the-century America. By looking at these works as part of a unified ensemble, *Choice Spirits* enhances public understanding of the taste and philosophy underpinning the establishment of the Freer Gallery of Art.

Said exhibition curator Lee Glazer, a doctoral candidate at the University of Pennsylvania, "This exhibition provides an opportunity to call attention to two of the four artists best represented in the Freer Gallery's American collection—with 72 Tryons and 24 Dewings, the Freer holds the world's largest, and finest, collections of these artists' works.

"The Freer also has, not coincidentally, the most concentrated collection of frames designed by celebrated New York architect Stanford White (1853-1906), still paired with their original paintings, since the artists themselves selected the frames as harmonious accompaniments to their tonalist vision."

Linda Merrill, associate curator of American art at the Freer Gallery, served as curatorial adviser for this exhibition.

Choice Spirits takes its title from Dewing's declaration to Freer in 1901: "My decorations belong to the poetic and imaginative world where a few choice spirits live." Dewing's decorations—large-scale landscapes with figures, composed for specific architectural settings—had received a tepid° reception from the popular press but were greatly admired by Freer, who purchased two in the early 1890s for his new

house in Detroit. "After Sunset," an 1892 oil on canvas, and "Before Sunrise," an 1894-1895 oil on canvas, both with Stanford White's frames, ornamented Freer's parlor, as did several of Dewing's figure paintings, including "The Piano."

When Dewing claimed that his works were at home only in the realm of visionary poetry, he also acknowledged their place in a more concrete° community of discerning collectors and sympathetic fellow-artists. Freer sought advice from Dewing and Tryon on wall colors, woodwork, furniture, and even garden design for his house. The artists set about creating a unified ensemble to extend harmonious formal relationships beyond their canvases and into the surrounding space, creating what a friend of Freer's later called a "dream of beauty."

Seven of Dwight Tryon's similarly atmospheric and decorative landscape paintings, depicting different seasons and times of day, were created for the front hall. Of these, "Summer," "Autumn," Winter," and "Dawn" are on view in this exhibition.

"For Dewing and Tryon, the studio was the place for realizing poetic vision," Glazer says. Tryon spent 6 months of every year in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, where he occasionally made studies for future paintings, but mainly passed the time relaxing outdoors. It was only after the cold weather forced him back to his New York studio that he recollected and abstracted nature's moods in his paintings. Dewing, too, spent summers away from the city. His decorations were inspired by the lush gardens and fields of Cornish, New Hampshire, the arty holiday spot where he kept a studio from 1885 to 1905. However, he completed the canvases only in New York, where professional models were more readily available.

"Four Sylvan Sounds," a pair of screens on view painted by Dewing in 1896-1897, may have been inspired by his 1895 visit to the Paris studio of James McNeill Whistler. There he had seen a Japanese two-fold screen painted with a "nocturne," Whistler's term for his moonlit riverscapes. Dewing also knew the screen format appealed to Freer, as he often accompanied the collector to Yamanaka & Co., a New York dealer in Asian art. During the two years Dewing worked on "Four Sylvan Sounds," Freer added 12 Japanese screens to his collection. In Freer's house, "Four Sylvan Sounds" may have been used in the Japanese manner, as a decorative room partition.

Even after Freer began to concentrate on his Asian collections, he maintained his friendship with Dewing and Tryon and continued to purchase easel paintings and smaller works on paper, often directly from the artists' studios. Two silverpoints (drawings made with a silver-tipped instrument called a stylus on specially-treated paper) by Dewing are on view—a 1906 "Study of a Young Woman's Head in Two Tones" and an 1898 "Study of a Head."

In 1893, Freer sent Dewing a quantity of the brown paper Whistler favored for his pastel drawings. This medium turned out to be both aesthetically satisfying and eminently marketable, and Dewing continued to work in pastels off and on for the remainder of his career. Four of Dewing's pastels are shown in rotating pairs—"Nude Study," "Pastel No. 6," "The Pink Dress," and "Sappho."

Freer selected these pieces as works of art, but also as components of a larger aesthetic system based on chromatic resonances and stylistic refinement. Freer was not the only person who found works by the two artists mutually illuminating—Tryon and Dewing frequently displayed their works together or in sequential solo exhibitions at the Montross Gallery in New York City. Freer himself worked with the artists to orchestrate three exhibitions in which their works were grouped with paintings and pastels by Whistler.

The current exhibition complements a Dewing retrospective at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American Art, *Beauty Reconfigured*, which will include more than 70 objects and be on view from July 19 through October 19.

tepid: not very enthusiastic; cool.
concrete: specific; real.

CONTINUING AT THE FREER

Beyond Paper Chinese Calligraphy on Objects (gallery 10)
Indefinite run

This exhibition of 36 works created between the 7th and 19th centuries emphasizes the uses of calligraphy on 3-dimensional objects made of clay, lacquer, metal, jade, bamboo, silk, wood, and rhinoceros horn. Chinese admiration for calligraphy led to its evaluation as the highest of the visual arts in China. No type of object—from utilitarian to the decorative—was considered too humble or too lofty to be enhanced by the presence of calligraphy.

The Life of a Japanese Painting (galleries 5-7)
Through August 1996

This exhibition of recently-conserved Japanese paintings offers visitors an opportunity to learn about the many issues to be considered in repairing rare paintings on delicate silk or paper. It shows different approaches to conserving and remounting works of art and explains the distinctive characteristics of Japanese painting formats and mounting styles. As part of a multimillion-dollar effort to preserve cultural properties, some important Japanese paintings from the Freer collection are being conserved and re-mounted in the traditional manner by specialists in Japan. This project is cosponsored by the Japanese government and private organizations in Japan. Paintings that have been treated under this project and others that have undergone conservation at the Freer Gallery are shown.

In Human Form: Images of the Secular and Divine in Chinese Painting (gallery 13)
Through September

People are the focus of most Chinese painting, even when none appear to be visible. Portrait painting, a direct representation of historical individuals, has been one of the central

traditions of Chinese culture for over 2,000 years. Landscape painting, the environment of people, is formed around the figures who occupy it and provide its structure and meaning. Idealized representations of people also may symbolize moral and spiritual powers. This exhibition of 25 paintings from the 11th to 18th century examines some of the ways actual and symbolic images of people shape and inform Chinese painting.

Female Imagery in Indian Painting (gallery 18)
Through September

The 17 paintings on view are from manuscripts or albums produced between the 15th and 19th centuries for the various Hindu and Islamic courts of India. Manuscripts generally illustrate dynastic histories or sacred tenets, while album paintings were commissioned individually to be bound together for viewing. The paintings on view focus on women in courtly surroundings, indulging in leisure activities. A princess is presented in a formal portrait, a woman shown at worship, another plays with a pet deer, while yet another is ensconced° in the arms of her lover. Two paintings present us with the female as divine: one a vibrant portrait of the fearsome Hindu goddess Kali, standing on a demon and being praised by the major male deities of Hinduism—Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva—and the other an Indian interpretation of the Virgin Mary with child Jesus, clearly a copy of a European print.

ensconced: settled; lodged.

Seto and Mino Ceramics (gallery 8)
Through early 1997

The adjacent Seto and Mino regions in central Japan have made glazed ceramics for the past 1,200 years. A selection of 50 objects from the Freer collection will show how wares evolved over time in response to new technology and changing taste. Seto and Mino wares of the 9th through 15th centuries reflect the cultural importance of imported Chinese ceramics. The innovative wares of 16th and early 17th-century Mino potters constitute the single most influential body of work in the history of Japanese ceramics. During the 17th through 19th centuries, Seto and Mino potters produced pieces for the Tokugawa shogun as well as wares for the commercial market.

Continuing indefinitely

The Freer Gallery of Art houses a renowned collection of Asian and 19th- and early 20th-century American art, including the world's most important collection of works by James McNeill Whistler. Only a small portion of the 28,000 objects in the collection can be shown at one time, but changing selections are presented in thematic exhibitions. Current exhibitions encompass: American art, Japanese art, Korean ceramics, the Peacock Room, ancient Chinese art, Buddhist art, South Asian art, Islamic art, Egyptian glass and *Luxury Arts of the Silk Route Empires* (a shared exhibition between the Sackler and the Freer).

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LINKING THE DEVOTEE TO THE DIVINE

Puja: Expressions of Hindu Devotion, an exhibition of 125 works in bronze, brass, copper, wood, silver, granite, crystal, stone, terra cotta, and shell, ranging in date from the 9th to the 20th centuries, explains how art objects are used in Hindu worship. This exhibition opens at the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution on May 12 and remains on view through 1997.

Puja is the act of showing reverence to a god or to aspects of the divine through invocations, prayers, songs, and rituals. As exhibition coordinator Sarah Ridley, assistant head of the Education Department at the Sackler and Freer Galleries, explains, "An essential aspect of puja for the Hindu devotee is a spiritual connection with a deity. Most often that contact is facilitated through an object. The purpose of this exhibition is to give insight into Hindu puja and to show how art objects are used as connections to the divine."

Stephen P. Huyler, an art historian and photographer whose work was on view through April 7 in the Sackler exhibition *Painted Prayers*, acted as curatorial consultant. Most of the objects shown are on loan from Paul F. Walter of New York. This exhibition is made possible by a generous grant from the Smithsonian Institution Special Exhibition Fund.

Hindus commonly conduct puja at shrines in temples, in the home, and outdoors. Each section of the exhibition focuses on one of these different locations and on one of three primary Hindu deities: Shiva (the Creator and Destroyer), Vishnu (the Preserver), and Devi (the Protecting Mother).

Temple shrines

In the first section of the exhibition, visitors can see the re-creation of the central part of a temple shrine to the god Shiva. This space is sacred to worshipers because it holds the most precious image of Shiva, a stone *linga*. A linga is a symbolic image of the god that signifies the union of opposites (male and female, good and evil, light and dark). The granite linga on view was made in or around the 17th century in southern India, and it is displayed as worshipers would see it, after being washed and dressed by the temple priests. Surrounding the linga in the exhibition are many typical ceremonial objects: a bronze image of Nandi, the sacred bull on which Shiva rides; oil lamps, vessels to hold holy water, spoons for ladling the water onto the linga, an incense burner, and a handbell.

A 16th-century bronze sculpture of the saint Sundara and his wife, Paravai, followers of Shiva, is shown dressed as it would be when carried from the temple through the streets of a southern Indian city during a religious festival.

An introductory video shows how, why, and where puja is performed.

Household shrines

The heart of every Hindu home is the household shrine. The puja that take place there form the foundation of all family actions and decisions.

Gallery visitors can see a shrine to Vishnu, the god of home and family values. This one is typical of a shrine that might be found in a middle-class Hindu home. A wooden stand holds then principal images that would be worshipped. In the center is an 18th-century gilt-bronze Vishnu. On the right is an 18th-century gilt-bronze Lakshmi, Vishnu's wife and the goddess of abundance and prosperity. On the left is Bhu, the mother goddess, also an 18th-century gilt-bronze sculpture. An 18th-century bronze image of a crawling baby Krishna—one of the many reincarnations of Vishnu—and a 19th-century bronze image of Ganesha, the elephant-headed god to whom all Hindus pray because he is believed to have the power to facilitate any endeavor, are also on display in this household shrine. As a part of daily puja, the deities' presence would be honored by washing each sculpture with water and other sacred substances (like sandalwood or turmeric), dressing it, and adorning it with flowers and powdered vermilion, a red dye. During worship, each devotee would give the gods offerings of flowers and fruit.

A video shows pujas and shrines in Washington-area homes, and photographs show household shrines in Hindu homes around the United States. Hands-on objects and books in a reading area encourage visitors to further explore the themes of the exhibition.

Outdoor shrines

Many shrines in India have no external structure to designate their presence. Often deities are worshipped through natural landmarks, such as mountains, rivers, large rocks, or trees. Travelers stop at street-side shrines to leave cooked rice for protective deities, who ensure safe travel. Frequently the deity honored is a goddess viewed as the mother of the community and all its affairs. Many Hindu communities in India have their own goddesses that govern their existence. Some of the pan-Indian goddesses whose identities and legends encompass countless smaller religious traditions are shown in the exhibition. An 11th-century bronze of Parvati, the wife of Shiva and the feminine complement to his masculine energy, is shown seated on Shiva's lap. Hindus believe that the universe was created from their union and also is sustained through it. Other images include a 19th-century sculpture in bronze with bone eyes of Gauri, the cosmic mother who bestows fertility upon the universe; a 12th-century bronze Durga, the great warrior goddess; and a 10th-century bronze vessel decorated with the image of Manasa, the goddess who cures snakebite and ensures successful childbirth. A video in the exhibition shows a puja to the goddess Chandi, who is honored through her image in a sacred tree in Puri District in eastern India.

Public programs

Public programs associated with *Puja: Expressions of Hindu Devotion* include demonstrations of music and dance by Washington-area Hindus, interpretive presentations by gallery docents, and films. These programs are supported by a grant from the Smithsonian Institution's Educational Outreach Fund.

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OPENING AT THE SACKLER

Paintings by Masami Teraoka
June 30-December 1

Japanese-born artist Masami Teraoka (b. 1936), first received international acclaim with the exhibition "Masami Teraoka" at the Whitney Museum of Art in 1979. It was then that Teraoka's distinctive works captured a wide and enthusiastic audience. With images of death, AIDS, and sexuality, Teraoka portrays realities of a late 20th-century world created on the fault line between two cultures. Teraoka uses social satire and witty eroticism to consider the contemporary search for personal and societal identity. Approximately 40 works completed since 1989, including a number painted for this exhibition, are shown. Integrated within the exhibition are 19th-century woodblock prints and drawings by the artist Kunisada Utagawa (1786-1865), the acknowledged source material for much of his art. Paintings on view are from the collection of the artist and selected private collections.

CONTINUING AT THE SACKLER

The Power of the Pen: Islamic Cathy in the 14th Century
Through May 27

This exhibition of 14th-century calligraphy and illumination, bookbindings, and calligraphic tools, explores a golden age of Islamic calligraphy. During this period, artists standardized the form of cursive scripts, allowing them to develop ever more refined and sophisticated calligraphic works. Objects on view were created under the royal patronage of the Mamluk dynasty (1260-1517) in Egypt and Syria, and the rival Mongol Ilkhanids (c. 1258-1355), ruling Iran and Iraq, and are from the Sackler Gallery's Vever Collection, the Art and History Trust Collection, the Walters Art Gallery, and the Library of Congress.

Traders and Raiders on China's Northern Frontier
Through September 2

This exhibition reflects the flourishing contacts and complex interrelationships between China and its northern neighbors, the pastoral tribes who inhabited the vast lands north of the Great Wall during the first millennium B.C. Visitors see a selection of about 100 belt plaques, buckles, chariot and harness fittings, weapons, tools, and vessels made of gilded, tinned, or inlaid bronze, as well as cast gold and

silver from China and the northern region. A 200-page illustrated book accompanies this exhibition. Objects are drawn primarily from the hitherto unpublished private collection assembled by Therese and Erwin Harris, the permanent collection of the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, and from selected private and public collections.

Continuing indefinitely

The Arts of China—A new selection of objects is replacing many previously on view in this exhibition.

Metalwork and Ceramics from Ancient Iran

Sculpture of South and Southeast Asia

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Info: The Freer Gallery of Art, a national museum of Asian art at the Smithsonian Institution, is located on Jefferson Drive at 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. The Arthur M. Sackler Gallery is located at 1050 Independence Avenue S.W., near the Freer Gallery. Together they form the national museums of Asian art at the Smithsonian Institution. No admission charge! Free public tours are offered daily. Hours are 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily, except December 25.

For information: ☎(202) 786-2374 (TTY); (202) 357-2700 (Voice). To verify Freer tour times: ☎(202) 786-2374 (TTY); ☎(202) 357-4880 ext. 245 (Voice); ☎(202) 357-3200 (taped message), Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. ❐(202) 786-2317 (FAX). ❖Home page: http//www.si.edu/Asia.

WHAT'S DOING IN LOS ANGELES

REDUCING THE RISK: THE PROPOSAL WINNERS

More than 5,000 at-risk youth citywide will benefit from youth programs provided by $190,000 in contracts awarded to 28 arts and youth organizations. The program is sponsored by the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department.

According to the department's Youth Arts & Education Office, each arts project will receive funding in amounts ranging from $5,000 to $10,000. The awarding of contracts was based on collaborative, community-based projects by arts organizations developing or expanding their programs with one other or more organizations (for example, schools, youth organizations, businesses, and arts agencies) and collaborative-arts components developed by non-arts youth organizations to enhance their existing youth programs.

Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for Youth Arts Services resulted in a submission of 150 proposals. There were two parts to the review process. First, the proposals, divided into groups based on discipline, were reviewed by an arts specialist, a youth advocate and a department staff member. A second panel, consisting of three youth arts specialists, reviewed the top third proposals and selected 28 projects. These include year-round classes in dance and film production as well as school-based arts-education and performing- and literary-arts workshops.

The 28 projects are listed here, including names of the contractor (bold) and the collaborators (italicized), a brief description of the program, the amount funded and the city council district(s) served.

YOUTH ARTS SERVICES CONTRACT AWARDS

Art Options/*Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Continuation Schools*: $5,000

Free classes in painting, writing and performance culminating in a year-end art exhibition, publication of student work, and a theater production. Affects 100 continuation-high-school students yearly. Council Districts: #1, 8, 9

Barrio Action Group/*Studio Dos O Tres*: $6,000

Art workshops will engage youth in the design process and produce a "front porch for the community." Students, staff, and artists will construct a journal and study design aspects of local front yards and consider how these aspects have affected their community. Council District: #14

Center for the Study of Political Graphics/*South Central Youth Empowerment Action*: $5,000

Two 10-week Saturday workshops for 25 students to learn silk-screening, poster-making techniques, and printing on T-shirts. Breakfast and transportation will be provided. The final student designs will become a traveling exhibition to LAUSD schools. Council Districts: #8

Dolores Guerrero-Cruz/*Nightingale Mid School, L.A. Conservation Corps*: $6,000

Team effort between artist and student your in designing and creating a mosaic sidewalk and mural for beautification and pride of their community. Council District: #1

East L.A. Classic Theater/*LAUSD*: $8,000

Summer Youth Classic Theater Program and additional 8-week theater workshop for youth, culminate in staged performances of ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***, and videotaping of students' original creation. Council Districts: #6, 7, 10, 14

El Centro del Pueblo/*Elysian Heights Elementary Program*: $10,000

In-depth multi-disciplinary arts-education and job-training program for Echo Park youth exposed to gang activity. Teachers are recruited from the community. Council Districts: #1, 13

Ernesto Salcedo/*Pacoima Community Youth and Cultural Center*: $6,000

A 20-week workshop to introduce 40 at-risk youth to basics of traditional Latin American musical techniques and oral

folkloric traditions. Council District: #7

Heart of L. A. Youth (HOLA)/*Artist Eliseo Silva*: $5,000
Four-month-long mural project for youth from the Rampart, Pico-Union, and Downtown Area. HOLA is a safe haven for over 600 area at-risk youth. Council District: #10

Judy Leventhal/*L.A. County Office of Education, Angels Flight, Heidi Arnundsun*: $6,000
Artist will conduct mask-making program for 40 at-risk youth enrolled in the Los Angeles Office of Education's Division of Juvenile Court and Community Schools. Students explore, through mask-making, their personal histories within the context of cultures worldwide. Council Districts: #1, 7, 12, 14

Keep Youth Doing Something/*Lanark, Canoga, Reseda, and Humphrey Parks*: $6,000
Free art workshops in air-brushing, for at-risk youth at community parks listed above. Council Districts: #3, 7

L.A. Choreographers and Dancers/*Grant Elementary School, Manual Arts High School*: $8,000
Five-week dance workshops to develop new intergenerational work at Grant Elementary by using students and their families. And 6-week workshops at Manual Arts High School teaching modern-dance technique and creating a multicultural student dance troupe. Council Districts: #4, 8, 9, 13

L.A. Boys & Girls Club/*Cal State L.A., USC*: $6,000
Student teachers from Cal State L.A. and USC combine efforts to conduct multi-disciplinary arts workshops for 570 at-risk youth of East Los Angeles. Council District: #1

L.A. Commission on Assault Against Women/*Monroe High School*: $6,000
Establishment of art center at Monroe High School whose focus will be to speak out against violence within the students' lives and community through the use of peer and group leaders/art teachers. Council District: #12

L.A. Theatre Works/*Mid-Valley Community Center*: $8,000
Forty weeks of bands-on workshops in visual, performing, and literary arts for Mid-Valley Community Day Center's accredited high school for court-referred youth. Council District: #2

Los Angeles Center Education Research/*"Hollywood Stars After School Program at Le Conte Middle School"*: $8,000
After-school program for 50-100 middle-schoolers from Le Conte, offering music, drama, arts, computer instruction, homework assistance, sports and field trips. Council District: #13

Laura Leigh Hughes/*Alliance Repertory Co., Mid-Valley Youth Center*: $6,000
Year-round youth-theater program providing dramatic writing, performance, and theater-production training for youth in residence at Mid-Valley Youth Center. At-risk youth write, direct, and produce four original dramatic plays each year. Council Districts: #2, 3, 11

Lokrantz/*Shirley Avenue Elementary School, McAlister High School, Tri-C Program*: $8,500
Endowment for Art Projects provides art activities for educationally-handicapped, learning-disabled, and severely emotionally-disturbed children and gives them the opportunity to mainstream with youth of their own age. Council District: #3

Marka Hitt-Burns/*Figueroa Street School*: $6,000
Discipline-based art-education program for 325 students, giving classroom art instruction. Students will acquire relevant cultural experiences, knowledge of art history, studio art, as well as exposure to multicultural perspectives, contemporary artists. Council District: #15

Francisco Martinez Dancers/*Angels Gate Cultural Center*: $8,000
Free year-round youth-ballet program offering Saturday classes to continue in-depth instruction and develop dance as a career option. Council District: #15

Monica Gazzo/*Angels Gate Cultural Center*: $6,000
Weekly workshop program providing media education and hands-on instruction for youth in San Pedro. Primary focus is on self-expression. Council District: #15

Mount Saint George/*San Fernando High School, San Fernando Cluster Parent Center*: $5,000
Partnership Public Art Program training youth in the creation and production of a public water sculpture (with self-supporting ecosystem) under the guidance of artist Joel Mueller. The site for proposed sculpture is on-campus at San Fernando High School. Council District: #7

National Conference/*Shakespeare Festival, L.A. Will Power to Youth*: $8,000
Literary-arts program providing full-time employment, academic accreditation, human relations, and personal financial-management mentoring to 20 youth recommended by City Council members. Program focuses on the literary value of Shakespeare. Council Districts: #1, 6, 7

Next Generation Productions/*LAUSD*: $8,000
Youth-mentorship program providing students instruction in film-making, production, script-writing, and editing through development and productions of student projects. Program is a bridge between school and jobs in the entertain-

ment industry. Council Districts: #2, 7, 13

Performing Tree/*Plaza Community Center, Latino Community Forum, Hollenbeck Center*: $7,500
Community-based, 10-month collaborative theater, literary, and production-arts workshop-education pilot project linking prominent Latino artists and 50 youth to enhance inter-group conflict-resolution skills to promote gang peace in East Los Angeles. Council District: #14

Poseidon School/*Glorious Players, 24th St. Theater, LAPD Jeopardy Program*: $8,000
Performing artists Deb Devine and Jay McAdams present a 32-week theater-arts program, culminating in free public performances. At least 20 youth in each of the four sessions will be recruited from the LAPD Jeopardy program. Council Districts: #1, 8, 9

Teresa Tolliver/*Flournoy Elementary School*: $6,000
Series of workshops on African-American and Hispanic history for Flournoy Elementary students, culminating with two student-created murals at Flournoy and Nickerson Gardens. Council District: #15

UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History/*LAUSD*: $8,000
Art Education School Program for *Isn't S/he a Doll?: Ritual and Play in African Sculpture* Exhibition. Project will serve students, teachers and families in the study of dolls and how they relate to rituals and concepts of play in Africa and the United States. Council Districts: #4, 5, 6, 11, 12

Watts Labor Community Action Committee/*Voices of Deliverance Choir*: $6,000
Community-based multifaceted approach to bringing Watts' African-American, Latino, and Pacific Islander youth together through music. Program focuses on the development of a 50-member choir made up of community citizens. The program will enhance its viability by providing academic tutoring, counseling, field trips, and community service. Council District: #15

TOTAL: $190,000

Continuing attractions

The Dr. Joseph & Bootsie Howard Musical Instrument Gallery houses a permanent installation from the world-famous Howard collection of drums and folk instruments from around the world. In 1989, the late Dr. Howard donated the collection, part of a larger body of more than 600 percussion and folk instruments (one of the largest drum collections in the world), to the Watts Towers Arts Center. The gallery space was designed by 2AE Architects, principals Ayndrea Wilson, Otis Blackmon, and Elliot Barker. Watts Towers Arts Center, 1727 E. 107th St., Los Angeles. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m.; closed Monday. For information: ☎(213) 847-4646.

Field Trip to the Towers, a multicultural arts program that provides visiting groups with interdisciplinary arts experiences. Watts Towers Arts Center. For registration info: ☎(213) 485-1795.

Weekend self-guided public tours of the Watts Towers of Simon Rodia continue to be suspended until the completion of scaffolding, erected to aid in the repair of damage from the Northridge earthquake on the three tall towers of the national landmark. During this period, visitors are still able to view the internationally-renowned sculpture from outside the bordering fence. For more information about the temporary suspension of tours and about the Watts Towers, located at 1765 E. 107th St., Los Angeles: ☎(213) 485-2433.

The Ya Ya Tea Bar, a teahouse offering poetry, music, theater, and comedy performances/open microphone, and workshops, every Sunday, noon-8:30 p.m. Tea and pastries are available for purchase. William Grant Still Arts Center, 2520 S. West View St., Los Angeles. For info, call Charla Franklin at ☎(213) 734-1164. Free.

Tours of Hollyhock House, Tuesday through Sunday, noon, 1, 2 and 3 p.m.; closed Monday. Tours in ASL are offered on the first Sunday of each month. Call ☎(213) 660-4254 (TTY) for reservations and time. Barnsdall Art Park, 4800 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles. For more information, call ☎(213) 662-7272 (Voice) for recorded tour information, ☎(213) 913-4157 (Voice) for group tour reservations. (Nominal admission fee; children 12 and under free).

Choreographers wishing to participate in "Choreographic Works in Progress," a monthly workshop series that showcases new works in an intimate forum, may apply by calling Leslie Sisson at ☎(213) 485-2437. Open to beginning-advanced choreographers, age 18 and older. Series takes place at the Los Angeles Theatre Center (LATC), 514 S. Spring St., Studio 5C, Los Angeles. Free.

Will & Co. Workshops, held regularly, include such topics as fencing, text interpretation, and Shakespearean performance. Will & Co. is a traveling-theater organization that produces classics for audiences young and old. LATC. For membership information, call ☎(213) 485-1631. Ask about accessibility.

"Play Chess," free lessons sponsored by the Los Angeles African American Chess Club, continues ongoing Tuesday classes for children and youth ages 7 and older, 4-6 p.m. Beginner classes start every month. William Grant Still Arts Center, 2520 S. West View St., Los Angeles. For information, call Dr. Halford Fairchild at ☎(213) 734-0809 or Dr. Lloyd Ferguson at ☎(213) 296-5312.

Community Bridge, a free series of art classes, starts the spring session April 16 with the 6-week Explorer Series and the 7-week After School and Saturday workshops. The Explorer Series offers the following workshops: *"Understanding Architecture" for ages 6-12 on Tuesday, *"Theatre, Dance and Expression" for ages 6-12 on Wednesday, *"Silkscreen" for ages 14-18, "African Dance from Cameroon" for ages 6-12, and "Drumming/Percussion" for ages 6-12 on Saturday, "African Dance from Cameroon" for adults, and *"Origins of Music" for ages 6-12 on Sunday. (*No admittance after the second meeting of this workshop.) The After School and Saturday program offers the following classes: "Drawing from Still-life Objects" for ages 6-12 on Tuesday, "Mixed Media/Collage" for ages 6-12 on Wednesday, "Beginning Painting" for ages 6-12 on Thursday, "Ceramic Sculpture" for ages 6-12 on Friday, and "Comic Book Art" for ages 10-17 on Saturday. Watts Towers Arts Center. ☎(213) 485-1795. (Through June 1.)

Previews

April 9

➳ *Shakespeare Goes Hollywood*, a gala fund-raiser with film, television, and theater celebrities performing monologues, soliloquies, scenes, and arias from Shakespearean plays and operas. Biltmore Hotel, 515 S. Olive St., downtown Los Angeles, 7 p.m. In conjunction with the sixth World Shakespeare Congress, *Shakespeare and the Twentieth Century*. Funds raised at the gala will benefit theater programming by the Cultural Affairs Department for at-risk and inner-city young people. For reservations and details: ☎(213) 485-1624. Tickets are $100-$1,000 ($250 ticket and above includes a post-show reception).

April 10-20

➳ *Performing Arts Festival* at LATC, four different theater companies present plays in conjunction with the sixth World Shakespeare Congress. Performances: Will and Company's adaptation of ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***, Cornerstone Theatre Company's adaptation of ***Twelfth Night, or As You Were*** (adaptation by Alison Carey), Inner City Cultural Center's ***Iago*** by C. Bernard Jackson, and Oasis Theatre Company's adaptation of ***Measure for Measure***. For performance dates, times, reservation, and ticket info, call the LATC box office at ☎(213) 485-1681.

April 12

➳ *Conversation with the Artists* program, 7-9 p.m., in conjunction with exhibition *Collaborations*, a traveling show that pairs 23 Korean-American and African-American artists through collaborative art pieces. Participating artists will discuss their collaborative experiences and works. Watts Towers Arts Center, ☎(213) 847-4646. Free.

April 12, 13, 14

➳ *The City of Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Fair* is set for April 12, 13, and 14 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Los Angeles Zoo parking lot, Griffith Park, at the junction of the Ventura and Golden State freeways. The annual event promotes emergency response and readiness with demonstrations by such City departments as Fire, Police, Building and Safety, Animal Regulation, and Water and Power. Also participating: the LAUSD, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, KFWB, the American Red Cross, and more than 40 vendors who sell and demonstrate preparedness materials and products. Special programming for school children is scheduled Friday, April 12. Free.

April 13

➳ *Children's Film Series*, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Program: ***Jack and the Beanstalk***, narrated by Michael Palin, music by Dave Stewart, and ***Linnea in Monet's Garden***, winner of the Best Animated Film in the 1993 New England Children's Film Festival. The two 30-minute films are followed by a related hands-on art workshop. Gallery Theatre, Barnsdall Art Park. For reservations: ☎(213) 485-4581. Free.

➳ *Metamorphosis: Earth to Light/Light to Earth*, an exhibition of oil paintings by Bruce Everett and watercolor paintings and waterform sculpture by Joel Mueller. Artist reception, 3-5 p.m. LATC lobby. ☎(213) 485-2437.

April 14

➳ *Sunday Open Sunday*, the free family-art-workshop series, presents "Wind Mobiles" with artist Elmira Adamun, 2-4 p.m. Theme of series: "Creativity." Junior Arts Center, Barnsdall Art Park. ☎(213) 485-4474.

April 20

➳ *Joint Video Screening* of works by documentary filmmakers Ulysses Jenkins and Michael Cho, 5 p.m. Program: screening of Jenkins' ***A Griot's Video Trilogy*** and Cho's ***Another America***. In conjunction with exhibition *Collaborations*. Watts Towers Arts Center. ☎(213) 847-4646. Free.

April 21

➳ *Sunday Open Sunday* presents "Pop-up Cards" with artist Laura London, 2-4 p.m. Barrington Parks and Recreation Center, 333 S. Barrington, West Los Angeles. ☎(213) 485-4474.

GENERAL INFORMATION

➳ For exhibits and events in Barnsdall Art Park, call ☎(213) 660-4254 (TTY). This TTY is located the Municipal Art Gallery, which serves all the facilities in Barnsdall Art Park: Hollyhock House, Junior Arts Center, Barnsdall Arts Center, and Gallery Theatre—same number.

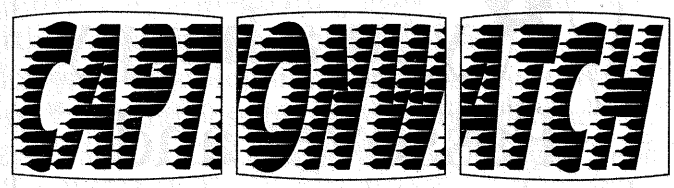
➳ For more information, contact the Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department at ☎(213) 847-3368 (TTY) or ☎(213) 485-2433 (Voice), or the phone numbers given for each facility. (Most are Voice, so use the relay service.)

☞ **Editors' note:** We had no luck getting through to the Cultural Affairs Department via its TTY number. It "rang

endlessly."

➳ Accommodations for disabilities are available on request for events and programs. Information in alternative formats also is available on request. Call the TTY number above or ☎(213) 485-8507 (Voice).

➳ For a complete calendar of events and previews, and list of Cultural Affairs Department facilities, contact: City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, 433 South Spring Street, 10th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90013.



NEW LIFE, REAL LIFE

Lifetime's Emmy award-winning series, ***What Every Baby Knows***, is now being closed-captioned by The Caption Center. Captioning for this program is made possible by the U.S. Department of Education and Lifetime Television.

What Every Baby Knows is hosted by Dr. **T. Berry Brazelton**, many parents' favorite source of information and comfort for years. It explores the hidden meanings of children's behavior and teaches parents how to better understand their child's needs. Episodes often focus on a certain condition or behavior, and may include parents bringing their children into Dr. Brazelton's office or before a studio audience to discuss the best ways to approach an issue. Cases are often followed-up, so viewers at home learn how the treatment, approaches, and ideas worked.

Angela Officer, a new mother and member of the New Hampshire Association of the Deaf, says, "When I was pregnant I was looking for TV programs or videotapes to help me learn what I needed to know about how to take care of a newborn baby. This was a totally unfamiliar world to me! I could not find anything that was closed-captioned and so I had to rely on books. I'm thrilled that The Caption Center has now made it possible for those of us who are deaf and hard-of-hearing to benefit from Dr. Brazelton's wonderful program!"

TIME magazine calls Dr. Brazelton "the nation's preeminent baby doctor." He has published more than 180 articles and 23 books on child development, including **Infants and Mothers**, which has been translated in 16 languages. He is Clinical Professor of Pediatrics Emeritus at Harvard Medical School, Professor of Pediatrics and Child Development at Brown University, and founder and former Chief of the Child Development Unit at Boston Children's Hospital Medical Center.

What Every Baby Knows is shown Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m. on Lifetime, a basic cable network serving 64 million households nationwide.

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The Caption Center has also begun captioning all four seasons of MTV's reality-based weekly series, ***The Real World***. Caption viewers can join in the fun and fully appreciate this show's unique window on evolving American pop culture. ***The Real World*** begins airing with captions in April with funding provided by the U.S. Department of Education's Daytime Programming grant.

One of MTV's most popular programs, ***The Real World*** is a combination documentary and soap opera that follows the tension, action, and dialogue of seven young adults living under one roof. Each season chronicles the lives of a new set of roommates who meet for the first time as they set up house in an exciting city. Deaf and hard-of-hearing fans will soon have access to the first three seasons, which took place in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, as well as the current season, set in London. The fifth year, scheduled to begin in June, will find a new group living in Miami Beach. MTV broadcasts the current season at 10:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, and continues to air past season's shows throughout their schedule. Check your local listings for specific days and times.

The diverse backgrounds of each season's cast members make for lively and sometimes heated interaction as the roommates get to know each other. The casts are selected from a wide range of young people from all over the country with varying career goals and experiences. Cameras set up in the house tape their day-to-day interactions. Each week, viewers track the progress of friendships, budding romances and occasional personality conflicts. Millions are tuning in to watch the roommates confront cultural differences, search for jobs, and adjust to living in a new location, making this one of the most talked-about programs on one of the hottest cable networks.

The Caption Center's Director, **Trisha O'Connell**, says, "Young deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers have asked for access to this innovative and wildly popular show since it began. For years we've captioned music videos which air on the major music channels, so there was a built-in audience eager to jump into ***The Real World***. The Caption Center is thrilled to be able to make the show accessible with the help of the Department of Education."

Background: The Caption Center, a self-supporting division of the WGBH Educational Foundation, pioneered captioning in 1972. For more information, look for The Caption Center on the World Wide Web at ❖http://www.wgbh.org/caption or write The Caption Center, 125 Western Avenue, Boston, MA 02134 or call ☎(617) 492-9225 (TTY/Voice).

VITAC LANDS ABC CONTRACT

VITAC has entered into an agreement with: Capital Cities/ABC, Inc., to caption ***America's Funniest Home Videos***, ***In Concert***, and ***Good Morning America Sunday***. The contract marks VITAC's first opportunity to work with Capital Cities/ABC, Inc. VITAC captions more than 150 hours of broadcast

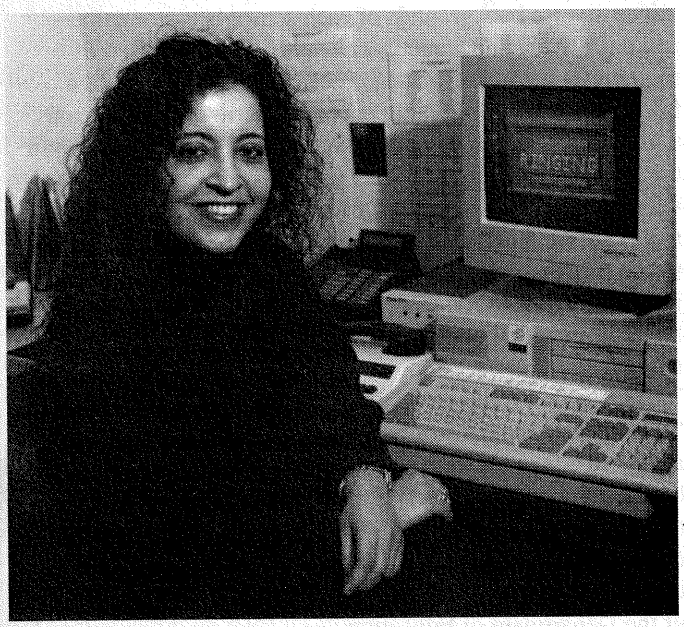
and cable-network programming each week for ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, UPN, CNN, Lifetime, and The Learning Channel.

"We are delighted to have the opportunity to work with Capital Cities/ABC," said **Joseph R. Karlovits**, VITAC President.

"More than 16 years ago, ABC made a commitment to its hearing-impaired audience by being among the first networks to close-caption a portion of our program schedule," said **Mark Turits**, Manager, Closed Captioning, Capital Cities/ ABC, Inc. "Today virtually all of the programming airing on the ABC Television Network is closed-captioned."

VITAC, celebrating a decade of service to the broadcast industry, specializes in real-time captioning of live television programs and events, and in providing off-line captioning of prerecorded programs, including entertainment programs, home videos, museum videos, corporate-communication videos and training videos. Headquarters are in Pittsburgh, with offices in Los Angeles and Washington.

GOT A QUESTION?



Questions about ABC programming? There's now a TTY line.

Deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers with questions about ABC network programming can now telephone ABC's Audience Information Department via TTY. This service is currently being promoted within the closed-captioning on ***World News Tonight***, ***PrimeTime Live***, and the ***Mike & Maty*** show. The number is ☎(212) 456-1201. The staff member handling these inquiries is deaf and has experience in operating a TTY. She is available to answer viewers' questions weekdays between 2 and 5 p.m. (Eastern Time).

ABC also communicates with deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers by mail, relay call, and through America Online.

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